

Jordan Times

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Egypt, UAE call for united Arab stand on Gulf

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) called Monday for a united Arab stand to make peace between Iran and Iraq. Egyptian Information Minister Sawit Sarif said reporters Mubarak and Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan also agreed to consult with Arab leaders to ease tensions in the Gulf and stop the war expanding. "Arabs must cooperate to put an end to this bloodshed in the interest of the two countries, the entire region and world peace," Sarif said. "The two leaders stressed that the Gulf's security is the same as Egypt's security," he added. Sarif said Sheikh Zayed, who began a three-day state visit Sunday, announced support for Mubarak's campaign for peace in the Middle East. It is his first trip to Egypt in a decade. Mubarak earlier met Palestinian envoy Said Kamal, who delivered a message from Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. Presidential adviser Osama Baz declined to disclose its contents but said their talks focused on the PLO's position on recent peace efforts, including the U.S. plan rejected by Israel.

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Kuwait backs summit

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has said it would attend a proposed Arab summit to discuss support for the Palestinian uprising, diplomatic sources reported Monday. They said Kuwait told Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi of its willingness to attend the summit, proposed by Algeria, at a place or date agreed by Arab leaders.

Afghan rebels to attend OIC talks

JEDDAH (R) — The Afghan Mujahideen, the rebel group fighting Kabul's Soviet-backed government, will attend an Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) meeting in Amman next week. A spokesman for the Jeddah-based OIC confirmed the rebels would take part in the talks starting March 21.

Syria names first woman ambassador

DAMASCUS (R) — President Hafez Al Assad swore in Syria's first woman ambassador Monday, officials said. They said Saba Nasser, 46, would be ambassador to Belgium, where she has been charge d'affaires for the last two years.

Klein to visit Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — The West German Economic Cooperation Minister Hans Klein will visit Syria March 24 for talks to promote economic and commercial cooperation, embassy officials said Monday.

S. Africa to hang 6

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has brushed aside international appeals for clemency and will hang six blacks convicted of complicity in the killing of a black township official, their lawyer said Monday. Lawyer Prakash Diar told Reuters the condemned — five men and a woman known as the "Sharpeville six" — had been told by prison authorities they would be executed Friday.

Israel, Hungary open low-level missions

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel and Hungary opened low-level diplomatic offices in each other's countries Monday, but a Hungarian official said full ties would be restored only after the Arab-Israeli conflict was resolved. "Hungary isn't a superpower and therefore her ability to negotiate in the dispute is modest," visiting Hungarian Foreign Ministry representative Jeno Jyenis said on Israel Radio. "But we support all efforts to promote a solution to the conflict," he said. "The restoration of full diplomatic ties between Israel and Hungary depends on a resolution of the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians."

Three Saudi diplomats wounded

LAGOS (AP) — A masked man shot and wounded three Saudi Arabian diplomats in an ambush in the parking lot of Lagos hotel, a newspaper said. A fourth diplomat escaped injury and pursued the gunman, the government-owned New Nigerian reported. It said the assailant escaped over a nearby wall. The four Saudis were fired upon as they left the Eko Holiday Inn in a car at 2 a.m. Sunday, the newspaper said. It said the gunman apparently had been waiting for them.

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Nine Arabs shot and wounded in W. Bank Israel imposes curbs on Palestinian markets

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded at least nine Palestinians Monday, and Arab residents said other troops closed one of the West Bank's largest fruit and vegetable markets.

Reports said 150 Palestinian policemen in Gaza announced their intention to quit, joining hundreds of officers who turned in their badges in the West Bank. Israeli police acknowledged some but gave no number. The resignations followed the killing of a Jericho policeman who was accused of being a collaborator, and an underground leaflet demanding they stop working for the Israeli occupation authorities.

Gaza to be sealed off every night

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army Monday ordered a curfew on the occupied Gaza Strip, home to 650,000 Palestinians, every night until further notice, military officials said. The curfew and the closure of access to the strip for five hours every night, imposed for the first time since the start of the Palestinian uprising 13 weeks ago, was ordered to prevent what a military official called "hostile elements" from inciting trouble. He said the curfew order would take effect until further notice. Israel radio said the curfew would be in force from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. The curfew and closure, actions unprecedented during the uprising, were ordered after hundreds of Palestinian policemen resigned at the urging of leaders of the uprising. Last August, the army barred residents from leaving the Gaza Strip for three days after the killing of Israel's military police commander there.

'War of cities' explodes after flimsy weekend truce

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran and Iraq intensified their war Monday as fierce fighting raged between ground forces and both sides pounded each other's capitals with missiles after flimsy weekend truce collapsed. Iraq fired six missiles at Tehran Monday and Iran said it fired two at Baghdad, dashing hopes that the ceasefire in the "war of the cities" that erupted Feb. 27 might hold.

Vassiliou calls for Turkish demilitarisation of Cyprus

ATHENS (R) — New Cyprus President George Vassiliou said Monday Turkey should withdraw its 29,000 occupation troops from northern Cyprus if it wants better relations in the area. "Demilitarisation of Cyprus is the most important step to be taken and also a proof of goodwill from Turkey if it desires an improvement of relations and peace in the area," Vassiliou told reporters after a two-hour meeting with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu.

Vassiliou, who arrived here Sunday on a five-day official visit, said he wanted to discuss demilitarisation with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and that Greece fully agreed with his initiative despite a negative response from Ankara. Vassiliou has offered to meet Ozal to discuss Cyprus but Ankara turned down the request. Papandreu, also speaking to reporters after the meeting, said he would urge Ozal to meet Vassiliou when the Turkish prime minister visits Athens in June. "I think it is a mistake to refuse the meeting, not only as far as Cyprus-Turkish relations are concerned but also Greek-Turkish relations," he said. Papandreu said the Greek-Turkish dialogue established in Davos, Switzerland, in January was a positive move towards resolving the Cyprus problem. In Davos, Papandreu proposed to Ozal the demilitarisation of Cyprus and the creation of a single police force on the island. Vassiliou said he and Papandreu had agreed to install a telephone "hot line" between Athens and Nicosia so that the two leaders could maintain closer contact.

As the Israeli army stepped up economic sanctions, including a ban on the shipment of gasoline and other fuel to service stations in the West Bank. Palestinian sources said many petrol stations were closed and Arab motorists were forced to drive into Israel for petrol. There was also a shortage in kerosene for home heating and cooking, they added.

The Arab municipalities in Hebron and Ramallah said they expected a crisis within the next few days if the ban continued. Soldiers closed down the regional fruit and vegetable market in Jericho, 36 kilometres north-east of Jerusalem. Arab merchants said 70 trucks carrying tomatoes, peppers, cauliflower, lemons, oranges and apples were turned away.

Shops were also ordered closed from 8 a.m. to noon by soldiers who said they could only open from noon to 4 p.m. and not the morning hours set in underground leaflets, residents said. Elsewhere, Israeli troops shot and wounded nine Palestinians outside the West Bank home of an Arab village. Palestinian protesters accused of collaborating with Israel, an army spokesman said.

Troops opened fire when Palestinians attacked the man's home in the Elyamun village. In apparent response to the campaign, Israel stepped up economic sanctions, including a ban on the shipment of gasoline and other fuel to service stations in the West Bank. Palestinian sources said many petrol stations were closed and Arab motorists were forced to drive into Israel for petrol. There was also a shortage in kerosene for home heating and cooking, they added.



Israeli soldiers guard the entrance of the closed Islamic College of Hebron after clashes between Jewish settlers and Palestinian protesters over the weekend.

Jordan exerts generous effort to back uprising

By Sa'd G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — As the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza enters its fourth month, thousands of dinars are being poured into the occupied territories from Jordan to sustain the momentum of the revolt.

The public and private sectors, operating separately, have funnelled approximately JD 300,000 for the Palestinians under occupation, in the form of monthly assistance to families of those who were killed, injured or detained since Dec. 9. The public sector campaign is coordinated by the Zakat Fund, an alms-to-the-poor fund-collecting body affiliated with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, while the private sector effort is spearheaded by a committee grouping professional, trade and labour associations and leading Jordanian personalities.

Zakat Fund director Mahmoud Al-Jawadi told the Jordan Times

(Continued on page 5)

Pakistan sticks to its demands at Afghan talks

GENEVA (R) — Pakistan said Monday it was sticking to its demands as the deadline approached for acceptance of a U.N.-mediated peace accord providing for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

"There are certain concerns of ours which I have spelled out only two or three days ago to everyone over here," Pakistani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani told reporters as he left U.N.-sponsored talks in Geneva.

"We will be ready to sign the moment those concerns are removed. Till then, what can I say?" The Soviet Union has offered to withdraw its estimated 115,000 troops in Afghanistan within nine months from May 15 if Pakistan signs the agreement by Tuesday.

Foremost among Islamabad's concerns is that a neutral coalition replace the present Soviet-backed Kabul government.

In an interview on official Kabul Radio, Afghan President Najibullah renewed his offer of talks with rebels on the formation of a coalition government but rejected Pakistan's demand for a transitional government.

All sides had looked to Pakistan to see if it would sign a U.N. pact. "God-willing, we will have an agreement," Noorani told reporters before the afternoon talks.

Although Arab governments have not revealed the American plan sources confirmed to the Jordan Times that a text of proposal which was first published in the Israeli Yediot Ahranot daily and later the New York Times was the same which was delivered to the Arab governments.

According to the letter, the U.S. is suggesting an international peace conference by May 1 to initiate talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza and a Syrian delegation and Israel on the future of the Golan Heights.

According to the diplomats, Arab governments view as positive the American stand on the international conference and, worse, its active reengagement in the peace process.

"The Arabs should not be the party that rejects the American initiative," a Jordanian analyst said.

Syria and the PLO have both publicly rejected the American plan. According to reliable sources, Jordan is still trying to get Damascus' approval that in the final official reply Syria will instead stress the positive elements in the plan in addition to raising Arab reservations and suggestions to develop the American plan and draw it closer to the Arab stand.

According to Arab officials and diplomats contacted by the Jordan Times this week, the Arab position on the Shultz plan could be summed up as under:

Welcome to the American endorsement of the idea of an international conference. At the same time, Arab officials feel that the plan has kept the

Algerian leader in Tunis to confer on Sahara

TUNIS (AP) — Mohammed Sherif Messaadia, chief administrator of Algeria's ruling National Liberation Front, arrived in Tunis Monday for discussions on a possible Tunisian-Saudi Arabian mediation in the Western Sahara conflict between Algeria and Morocco. Messaadia, widely regarded as number two in the Algerian government, conferred on the issue in Algiers Sunday with President Chadli Benjedid. Messaadia arrived in Tunis on the eve of a state visit by Mauritania President Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya. Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali returned Friday from a visit to Saudi Arabia where he told reporters that he and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd were considering a possible joint mediation to end to the 13-year-old guerrilla war in the Western Sahara. Algeria and Morocco have no diplomatic relations and have repeatedly verged on outright war since 1975 because of Algerian support for the Polisario independence movement in the Moroccan-annexed Western Sahara. The guerrillas, operating from Algerian sanctuaries, have inflicted thousands of casualties on the Moroccan army over the years while failing to gain any permanent foothold in the mineral-rich territory.

Masri flies to London to join mission on uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri left for London Tuesday to join Arab foreign ministers seeking support for the Palestinian uprising from the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Masri and the seven-member Arab League Committee would meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe.

The aim of the meetings, Petra said, is to win support for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories and for efforts for lasting Middle East peace.

Petra said the Arab League committee, which was set up in

January, planned to lobby all the Security Council's permanent members — the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China.

Apart from Masri, the delegation would include Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz and a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Petra added.

The group also includes the foreign ministers of Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

They met in Tunis Feb. 21 and decided to contact the Security Council members and the European Community about the Palestinian uprising.

his mission has operated for 13 years.

"The only way they will make me leave is to put me behind bars and take me away."

The PLO envoy also said that if the PLO mission is closed, as ordered by the U.S. Justice Department, then the General Assembly should deny Israel the right to participate in U.N. debates on the Middle East.

"If the Palestinian people are not allowed to be here," he said, "then out of a sense of fairness and justice, the other party to the conflict should not be here — namely Israel."

He said the General Assembly "can use its leverage to prevent the other party in the Middle East conflict — the Israeli state — to be equally denied to facilities to participate."

OIC condemns U.S. decision, page 5

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"Everybody in Israel wants peace, but the question is at what price and what will Israel be after peace," the headline Shamir was quoted as saying by his spokesman Avi Pazner.

"That's why I decided not to take any decision now as to the Shultz proposals," Pazner quoted him as telling American Jewish leaders who met him during a brief stopover in New York on his way to Washington.

"The Israeli people are divided, and I don't think that you can make peace with the consent of only half the people," Pazner quoted Shamir as saying. "We'll make a tremendous effort to reach an agreement with the U.S., and it will be up to the

Israeli cabinet to decide on my return."

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"Everybody in Israel wants peace,

Community colleges: serving Jordan's socioeconomic needs

By Katherine J. Sullivan

Photos by Bill Lyons

OVER the years, in coping with the double-edged challenge of limited resources and a dramatic increase in population, Jordan has looked to education as the key force in advancing its socioeconomic growth. This has meant not only building more and better schools, but also setting the appropriate national education goals. As important as filling immediate educational needs has been the kind of long-term planning needed to enhance the country's future productivity prospects.

Since the early sixties, when Jordan launched the first of its comprehensive development plans, the primary economic goal has been to increase the country's industrial, commercial and services potential and thus create more jobs for more people. With equal emphasis, it has been concentrating on training a qualified work force to fill those jobs.

Every year, as more and more young Jordanians reach employment age, the scope and purpose of their schooling increasingly determines the career opportunities open to them. To enhance their prospects, the government has been focusing in recent years on what could be called "directional education" — or educating to fill labour market needs.

In the four decades of Jordan's young nationhood, three major phases of change in its social and economic environment have drastically affected its labour market and, in turn, called for new shifts in educational options. The initial problem of widespread illiteracy was resolved with the establishment of a nationwide public school system and the introduction of free compulsory education, which has since resulted in the present literacy rate of over 70 per cent — one of the highest in the region. Successive changes in Jordan's demography and socioeconomic needs, however, have directed its educational planning far beyond this basic purpose.

In 1948, upon the creation of the state of Israel, Jordan was faced with the enormous responsibility of caring for the multitude of Palestinian refugees that resulted. The sudden upheaval of an entire population, deprived of its land and means of livelihood, created an unemployment crisis that severely strained Jordan's economic resources for years.

In 1967, just when conditions had improved and the future held high promise, another Arab-Israeli war forced another wave of hundreds of thousands of new refugees into Jordan. Moreover, Israel's military occupation of the West Bank dealt an immediate

disastrous blow to Jordan's economy. Again, the critical issue was how to provide services — especially basic education — and also create jobs for the increased population. For many, the only solution was to seek work elsewhere, which led to a mass emigration of skilled Jordanians and Palestinians to the Arabian Gulf states, as well as to Europe and the Americas.

The educational preference at the time lay strictly in academic studies. Secondary school graduates all had one ambition: to pursue a higher academic education. A college degree was both socially prestigious and economically valuable — it qualified one for positions in government or in the private services sector, where most of the job opportunities existed.

The oil boom

A second significant shift in Jordan's socioeconomic conditions was brought on by the regional oil boom of the early seventies, which vitalised the economy and increased the inflow of Arab aid and Jordanian expatriate monies. During this period, the government initiated a number of major development projects, but their implementation often was hampered by a labour shortage in crucial areas. To solve the problem, foreign construction, agricultural and industrial workers were imported. Measures also were taken to minimise further emigration of skilled Jordanians.

Reassessing its educational priorities in light of these and future requirements, the government began expanding its vocational and technical training programmes. With the increase in attractive job opportunities, the demand for this type of education had begun to rise. During the decade, dozens of new centres, offering training in a number of vocational specialisations, were established in various regions of the country by the Ministry of Education and the Vocational Training Corporation (an independent agency formed in 1976 to develop skilled technical cadres for industry in close association with the ministry of Labour).

A third turning point in Jordan's economy occurred in 1983, under the impact of the world recession and the concurrent reduction in Gulf oil revenues. The extended Iran-Iraq conflict also has had its adverse effect — Iraq, one of Jordan's major customers, had to curtail its nonessential imports. Although the overall labour shortage began to subside, certain skills were still in short supply and continued to depend

largely on foreign workers. In the corps of professionals, however, unemployment began to surface — particularly among engineers, doctors and teachers. New university graduates found themselves competing for choice jobs with the well-experienced Jordanians who were beginning to return from the Gulf.

Foreshadowing aggravated employment problems in the future is the fact that a third of Jordan's population is in school; and, despite current realities, most are receiving a purely academic education. Most Jordanian parents still want a traditional university education for their children — the higher the better. Jordan's three universities, however, are able to accommodate only a small percentage of the aspirants and many families have been sending their sons and daughters to universities abroad.

The birth of community colleges

The only other academic alternative in Jordan — its teacher training institutes — were already producing more teachers than Jordan or even its Arab neighbours could absorb. Obviously, an essential element in any long-term solution lay in education reform. In the late seventies, responding to King Hussein's directive to "reorient our educational objectives to meet the individual needs of our citizens and those of the community," the Ministry of Education began looking into the community college concept as a way to accommodate both the public demand for higher education and the national need for more skilled technical manpower. The idea was to provide more vocationally-oriented studies beyond the secondary school level.

In 1980, the Ministry of Education converted its teacher training institutes into two-year commun-



Computer programming...

ity colleges. This introduced the framework for a programme of job-oriented higher education that would be realised with the participation of private colleges and the government's training institutes. In the same year, the Council of Higher Education was formed to act, in coordination with Jordan's three autonomous universities, as the policy-making arm of the government's effort to channel students into more varied types of education. Then in April 1985, a separate Ministry of Higher Education was created, which assumed both the responsibilities of the Council and those of the Ministry of Education previously related to the administration of the community college system.

Designed to produce the specialists required for Jordan's technological development, the colleges are also expected to decentralise education, expand study options and increase higher education opportunities in Jordan. They are also intended to provide an out-reach programme of courses in languages, office skills and other subjects to the general public.

In the fall of 1980, 10 teacher training institutes and 10 private or other government institutes were transformed into Jordan's first two-year community colleges, with a total enrollment of approximately 17,000 students. The institutions offer nationally recognised "associate degrees," which also qualify students for

transfer to university level. A national community college examination was initiated in 1981 and is administered by the Ministry of Higher Education at the completion of all subject programmes. It has proven a useful tool in assessing students, staff and resources at diverse institutions administered by different authorities and in establishing a uniform standard for all community colleges.

One of the Council's first tasks was to conduct research on Jordan's development needs and labour market and define the objectives of an overall higher education policy. Working closely with the Ministry of Education and other concerned bodies, the Council drew up a detailed set of by-laws for an overall community college policy, including specific requirements for the licensing, accreditation and regulation of such institutions in Jordan. Formation of the Ministry of Higher Education, however, has required revision in administrative planning and changes in law to reflect shifted responsibilities.

Currently, Jordan has 55 licensed community colleges administered by over 30 different agencies, all operating under the regulatory authority of the Ministry of Higher Education. The Ministry of Education still runs two colleges, while the Ministry of Higher Education administers 10. These are located in Salt, Irbid, Ajloun, Huwara, Zarqa, Karak, Shobak (agricultural),

Marqaa and Al-Hisa (polytechnics), and Amman (three colleges, one of which is for women only, and another for hotel training specifically). Most of these still offer teacher training along with the newer professional specialisations.

Another 17 colleges are administered by other government ministries and departments, each offering highly specialised studies in fields such as telecommunications, social work, religious guidance, aviation, cartography, statistics, cooperative sciences, finance and health. For training in medical skills, the Ministry of Health has two paramedical institutes (in Amman and Irbid), while additional nursing, midwifery and health technology programmes are offered by colleges in Karak and Zarqa.

Private colleges too

Two UNRWA colleges, one for men and one for women, provide teacher training and other professional studies to Palestinian refugee students in the Amman area. Twenty-two other community colleges, operated by private groups, vary widely in size and the number of programmes offered. More than half of these are concentrated in Amman, with the remainder in Zarqa, Jerash and Irbid. While a few of the colleges are exclusively for women and others specialise in single subject areas — computer sciences, for example — the majority provide a fairly broad range of programmes in a coeducational setting.

The community colleges, as a whole, offer nearly 100 different specialisations in nine major professional categories: Education, commerce, computers, communications and transport, engineering, paramedical technologies, agriculture, hotel management and social professions (such as library science, law, journalism, social work).

By 1983/84, there were more than 32,000 students enrolled throughout the system, and the concept has caught on. Each year sees more young Jordanians taking advantage of the community college option. The emphasis on applied skills combined with academic study also has attracted students from other Arab states and foreign countries. Instruction in the Arabic language along with English, as well as the Arab



Hotel training...

cultural environment, has made Jordan's colleges a practical and less expensive alternative to study outside the region for some 1,400 other Arab students currently enrolled. Increasingly, Jordan is gaining importance as a respected regional centre for specialised professional studies.

Employment secured

On the employment front, Jordan's community college graduates seem to be meeting with success. Many go on to work in family-owned enterprises; others find jobs in industry, business or in government offices by virtue of their acquired skills. A 1984 employment study indicated that community college graduates are in high demand in many fields, among them office work, computer operation, cartography, statistics and industrial maintenance. Similarly, the Jordan Medical Council announced a critical need for specialists at various levels in nursing, physiotherapy and public and industrial health.

Last year, the Ministry of Education introduced a student career guidance programme in selected secondary schools, to be extended to all schools by 1990. The programme seeks to acquaint students with the realities of Jordan's economic and employment situation, while exposing them to the wider range of study opportunities and careers now available in the country. The importance of parental guidance in study/career choices is also being addressed via mass media.

Plans for the future of vocational/technical education in Jordan at all levels will be geared to the results of research being carried out now to arrive at a better integration of economic and labour market projections with educational planning.

Meanwhile, government construction of public education facilities, assisted by Arab and foreign grants and loans, reflects a strong emphasis on community colleges and vocational training at various levels. Due for completion soon are five comprehensive schools, an industrial school, six community colleges and four vocational schools. Other projects to be implemented over the next three years will provide 18 new vocational schools, as well as the expansion and improvement of labs, libraries and workshops at existing facilities.

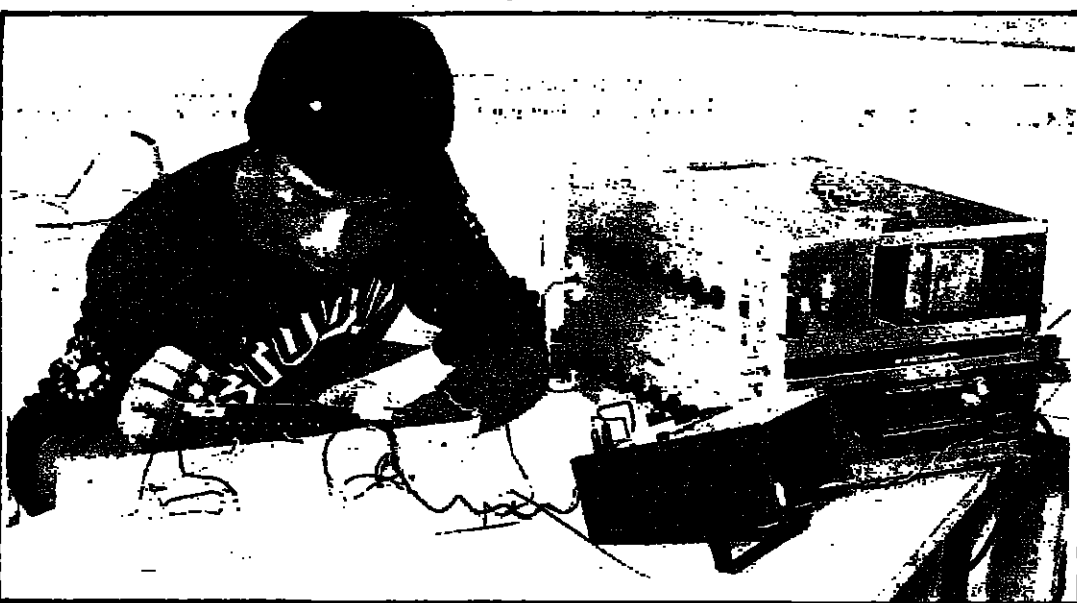
In 1984, when the Council of Higher Education issued its guidelines for the future development of community colleges, it called generally for a much higher proportion of practical job preparation in all types of college study, a greater emphasis on developing the English and Arabic language skills of students, and an expanded community outreach programme. Continually seeking to improve the scope and standards of the colleges, Jordanian educators stress that the system is under constant review and assessment.

There is no question that Jordan's community college system is already contributing to the social and economic development of the country. What remains to be seen is how research results, as well as administrative and legal changes, will affect the ultimate character of these institutions and their relationship to other educational institutions and to the labour market in Jordan.

Underlying all future decisions will be the delicate task of achieving a balance between the potentially conflicting priorities of the public demand for higher education and the national need for a stronger commitment to technical and vocational training at many levels. Educators must actively promote the fact that community colleges are able to provide a high quality of education with professional and social rewards. And graduates must be assured that their contributions to society are of value and will be viewed with respect — both in the workplace and in society.

Thus, the future growth of community colleges in Jordan rests as much on changing perceptions and social attitudes as it does upon providing more and better facilities and programmes. In this sense, Jordan's ongoing experience in "democracy of colleges" — as one Ministry official calls them — has involved the community at large in the discussion of a broad range of social, political and economic issues. In so doing, it has given wider meaning to its original purpose.

Katherine J. Sullivan, a writer and public relations consultant in Washington, D.C., lived and worked in Jordan from 1981 to 1983. The article is reprinted from Jordan magazine.



Electronics...

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme review
15:55 Children's programmes
16:30 In Search of the Past
17:20 Local programme
17:45 Soccer
19:05 Message from Oman
19:15 Local programme
19:45 Programme review and analysis
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Cultural programme
22:00 Varieties programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Close down

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Comme Tu Veux Mon cheri (French series)
19:00 News in French
19:15 French varieties: Un DB de plus
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 No Place Like Home
21:10 Strad by Light Camera! Action!
22:00 News in English
22:30 Murder She Wrote
23:10 Three's Company

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM

& parity on 8550 KHz, SW

Tel: 77111-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:10 Just a Minute
11:00 Good Old Days
12:00 News Summary
12:45 30-Minute Theatre
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session (Cont.)
14:00 News Bulletin
14:15 Instrumentals
14:30 15 Minute Theatre
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Pop Talk
17:30 News Summary
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Virtuoso 06:45

Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00
World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 New Ideas 07:40 Turning over the Leaf 07:50 The World
Newsline 08:30 VOA Newsline 08:30
Safad 09:00 World News 09:09 24
Hours: News Summary 09:30 The Un-
claimed Promise 09:45 Network U.K.
10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections
10:15 Health Matters 10:30 Best on
Record 11:00 World News 11:09 British
Press Review 11:15 The World
Roundup 11:45 Capriccio 12:00 News
Summary: Discovery 12:30 Sports Inter-
national 13:00 World News 13:09
News About Britain 13:15 Waveguide
13:25 A Letter from Scotland 13:30
Citizen 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15
Multitrack 1: Top 20 14:45 Sports
Roundup 15:00 World News 15:49 24
Hours: News Summary 15:50 Network
U.K. 15:45 Recording of the Week
16:00 News: Outlook 16:45 Virtuoso
17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 A Jolly
Good Show 17:30 Sports World 18:00
World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15
Omnibus 18:45 The World Today
19:00 World News 19:09 A Letter from
Scotland 19:15 Citizens 19:45 Sports
Roundup 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 De-
velopment 20:30 News Summary:
Outlook 21:30 Soccer Match Report
21:45 Report on Religion 22:00 World
News

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740,
11925 and 15210 Hz

06:00 News 06:18 Newsline 06:30 VOA
Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline
07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10
Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00
News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music
USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30
Special English News & Features 19:00
News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine
Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30
Special English News & Features 21:00
News 21:10 Newsline America 21:30
News 21:40 Newsline America 21:50
Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial
22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00
23:10 World Report

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Book exhibition at the Comprehensive
Commercial Centre (Tower Building),
Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle (permanent).

* Exhibition entitled "La terre entre
vous m'inspire" at the French Cultural
Centre (until March 17).

* Exhibition of photos about Wood-
cuts and typesetting in Germany at
Mu'ta University in Karak (until
March 15).

* Book exhibition at Arabian Club,
Irbid (runs through March 17).

* "Fifth Caravan Exhibition,"
works of the late Najat Al-Ah at
Hussein Camp Youth Activities Cen-
tre.

* General book exhibition at the
Professional Associations Complex in
Shu'eibani.

* Exhibition of artificial flowers, ceram-
ics and handicrafts: Plaza Hotel from
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (runs through
18/3/88).

FILMS

* "Wild Duck" (German with English
subtitles) at 8:00 p.m. at the Goethe
Institute.

* "Le charme discret de la
bourgeoise" at 5:00 p.m. at the Span-
ish Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* Dr. Frank Koucky from the College
of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, will
present a lecture on Ancient Copper
Mining and Metallurgy in Cyprus at
Oriental Research (ACOR).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre 664371
American Centre library 641520
British Council 6361478

FRANC CULTURAL CENTRE

637009
Goethe Institute 641093
Soviet Cultural Centre 642033
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 645195
Hussein Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library 843553

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science
Museum" Fun and knowledge for all
ages, plus a small planetarium at the
Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00
a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00
p.m. Closed on Friday.

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and cos-
tumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics
from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 13th
centuries). The Roman Theatre, Am-
man. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has
an excellent collection of the anti-
quities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (the
Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00
a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official
holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.).
Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a
collection of paintings, ceramics, and
sculptures by contemporary Islamic
artists from most of the Muslim coun-
tries and a collection of paintings by
19th Century orientalist artists. Muntaz-
ah, Jabal Lweibdeh. Opening hours:
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. -
6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel.
630126.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military
Museum): Collection of military
memorabilia dating from the Arab
Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman.
Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings
every first and third Wednesday at the
Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings ev-
ery second and fourth Wednesday at
the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings
every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn,
1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday
at the International Hotel, 2:00
p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Am-
man, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534,
817534.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal
Jordanian (RJ) information depart-
ment at the Queen Alia International
Airport. Tel. 1092 5320-5, where it
should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS
(Terminal 1)

06:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:15 Agaba (RJ)
07:30 Kuwait (RJ)
07:30 Cairo (RJ)
08:15 Jeddah (RJ)
09:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:10 Istanbul (RJ)
10:15 Paris, Brussels (RJ)
10:40 Rome (RJ)
10:45 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
10:55 Geneva, London (RJ)
11:40 Tripoli (RJ)
22:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

13:20 Moscow (SU)
13:40 Bucharest (RO)
14:45 Kuwait (KU)
15:00 Tripoli (RJ)
15:00 Riyadh (SV)
16:35 Cairo (AZ)
16:45 Rome (AZ)
19:15 Dubai (EK)
20:10 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
08:30 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS
(Terminal 1)

07:00 Agaba (RJ)
07:00 Rome (RJ)
07:30 Tripoli (RJ)
07:30 Vienna, New York (RJ)
07:30 Belgrade, Madrid (RJ)
07:30 Geneva, London (RJ)
07:30 Istanbul (RJ)
07:30 Larnaca (RJ)
07:30 Kuwait (RJ)
07:30 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
07:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
07:30 Damascus (RJ)
22:15 Bangkok (KU)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

08:30 Beirut (ME)
14:50 Moscow (SU)
15:00 Kuwait (KU)

PRAYER TIMES

06:24 Fajr
11:40 Sunrise (Doha)
11:45 Dhahran
15:09 Asr
17:47 Maghreb
19:05 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Monday rates

Local selling rates in Jds

Belgian franc 95.9 / 97.6
Dutch guilder 178.5 / 181.7
French franc 59.2 / 60.2
Japanese yen (for 100) 261.4 / 266.1
Swedish crown 56.5 / 57.4
Swiss franc 242.6 / 246.8
U.K. sterling pound 614.1 / 625.8
U.S. dollar 335.3 / 340.3
W. German mark 210.5 / 240

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of
Meteorology.

There will be a slight rise in tempera-
ture during the day, and the winds will
be light and variable. In Agaba, the
winds will be northerly moderate and
calm seas.

Min./max. temp.

Amman 4 / 15
Agaba 11 / 23
Deserts 2 / 16
Jordan Valley 10 / 22

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-
man 13, Agaba 21. Humidity readings:
Amman 56 per cent, Agaba 30 per
cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate 891228
Amman Civil Defence 198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quseimch 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla 57208
Ambulance 193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade 198
First aid 630341
Blood Bank 778303
Civil Defence rescue 651111
Fire headquarters 62700-3
Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters 639141
Traffic police 986390-1
Electric Power Co. 635381/4, 624581
Municipal water complaints 771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)533066

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Muhammad Khaleel 4896294
Dr. Hisham Kana'an 790286
Dr. A. Tayem 631115
Dr. Anwar Musa 771021
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nawrah pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636792
Yacoub pharmacy 643445
Shu'eibani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Karak taxi 666761
Grand Palace taxi 667769
Furat taxi 685186
Rashid taxi 623652
Remoroute taxi 668186
Tayeche taxi 663032
Faisal taxi 623051
San Rock taxi 813801

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 81381332
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
Akhil Maternity, J. Amn. 624417
Jabal Amman Maternity 643652
Malhas, J. Amman 636141
Palestine, Shu'eibani 661714
Shu'eibani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musader Hospital 6672779
The Islamic, Abdali 66612707
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marja 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 6023

CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein Monday assigned Royal Court Secretary General Dr. Bassam Al-Saker to convey His Majesty's condolences to the family of the late Dr. Omar Al-Shalabi, a veteran educationalist.

ARAB CITIES DAY: Greater Amman Municipality Tuesday observes Arab Cities Day, which this year is being celebrated under the slogan of "Towards Beautifying and Greening Arab Cities." Jordan Television will present Tuesday evening a documentary film on different parts of Amman, focusing on municipal projects and the various stages of development in the capital.

MURDER: A 30-year-old man identified by the police as F.A.B. killed his 24-year-old brother W.A.B. by stabbing him with a knife several times at his home in Jabal Taj in Amman. A report in the local press said that the murderer invited the victim to his house last Friday evening during his wife's absence, and stabbed him several times until he died and then left the house for the mosque to pray, leaving the dead man until the body was discovered the next day. The report said that the murderer admitted to killing his brother when he was questioned by the police and said the killing was due to differences within the family.

AGRICULTURE: Ministry of Agriculture Secretary General Dr. Salem Al-Lawzi Monday discussed with Dr. Nasrat Fadla, director general of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA), joint cooperation in the fields of agricultural researches and extension, as well as technology transfer. It was agreed during the meeting to form a committee grouping representatives from the ministry, the University of Jordan and the Jordan University of Science and Technology to work out a framework for cooperation and to specify projects between Jordan and ICARDA.

HIGHER EDUCATION: Ministry of Higher Education Secretary General Dr. Ahmad Al-Tal Monday said that the ministry was doing its utmost to raise the standard of higher education as part of a national policy aimed at developing all cycles of education in Jordan. Dr. Tal, speaking during an open meeting Monday at Ajloun Community College, said that the development process will include public and private community colleges mainly the curricula, exams and teaching staff.

CULTURAL TIES: Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Al-Hammouri Monday met separately with the Soviet and U.S. ambassadors and North Korean charge d'affaires in Amman and discussed with them bilateral relations and cooperation in cultural fields.

TRAINING COURSE: The Near East, North Africa Regional Agricultural Credit Association will hold a training course in management on March 19 for 15 employees from Sudan's Agricultural Bank. The four-week course includes lectures on management subjects as well as field trips. The course is held in cooperation with the Amman-based Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences (AOAS).

HANANIYA: The National Medical Institution Director General Dr. Dawoud Hananiya Monday inspected the Prince Ali Hospital and the Government Hospital in Karak. Dr. Hananiya later visited the Tafelgha Government Hospital and Ma'an Government Hospital.

NAOUR GOVERNOR: Naour District Governor Najj Mahmoud toured towns and villages and discussed services in the region with heads of municipal and village councils.

HEALTH FIELD TRIPS: Health department teams are conducting field trips to schools in Madaba district to spread health awareness among children. The teams are giving lectures, showing films and slides and distributing pamphlets in the course of their tours.

WOMEN'S DAY: A ceremony was held at the Karak branch of the Professional Association Complex to mark the International Women's Day. Speakers outlined Jordanian and Arab women's contributions to social and economic development and the struggle of Palestinian women alongside men for liberating the occupied Arab territory.

SWEDEN EVENING: Sweden Evening was held at the Regency Palace Hotel Monday for all "friends of Sweden." The Swedish ambassador, Lars Lonnback, and invitees enjoyed an evening of Swedish food, entertainment and a slide show on Sweden.



Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh receives Finnish Passikivi Council in Amman Monday. (Petra photo) (Below) The Finnish group was also met by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin



Jordan prepares for Al Israa Wal Mi'raj

AMMAN (Petra + J.T.) — Jordan along with Arab and Islamic countries will celebrate Al Israa Wal Mi'raj feast Wednesday with religious ceremonies to be held in mosques around the Kingdom. The major ceremony will be organised Tuesday evening on the

eve of the feast at the Hussein Mosque downtown when scholars and notable religious figures will address the worshippers.

On Monday several meetings were held in Madaba, Jerash and other governorates and districts

to prepare for the ceremonies, and the governors announced that all liquor stores, night clubs and bars will be closed from Tuesday evening until Thursday morning. All government departments will remain closed Wednesday on the occasion.

Regional meeting on agriculture debates movement of manpower in Near East

MUSCAT (Petra) — A regional conference on agricultural development Monday discussed the movement of manpower within the Near East countries and their employment in agricultural projects.

The conference, which opened here Sunday, heard Jordan's views with regard to the movement and employment of workers in agriculture, and money transfers to their own countries from Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud who represents the Kingdom at the conference.

Hmoud Sunday spoke in detail on the need to develop the agricultural sector in the Near East region, and said that nearly 20 per cent of Jordan's population live on agriculture, which provides employment for nearly 12 per cent of the Jordanian workforce.

Hmoud said Jordan's strategy, as spelled out in the current five-year development plan, aims to focus on the rainfed agriculture.

He pointed out that this strategy aims at achieving an annual growth rate of 7.8 per cent — a rate which requires investments worth JD 417 million, of which JD 117 million are invested in the field of irrigation and construction of dams.

The plan also focuses on areas such as production of grains, red meat and dairy, the minister noted.

Hmoud warned about the food gap, which some countries in the region, including Jordan, are currently suffering from, because of their increasing reliance on imported food.

"This gap will further widen as long as food production growth



Marwan Al-Hmoud

rates are on the decline and population increase continues at its present high level," the minister said.

Rains 'guarantee success' of Zarqa crops

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Agriculture Department Director Mohammad Lawzi said Monday this year's rains are bound to guarantee the success of crops, especially cereals grown in nearly 91,000 dunums of land in the Zarqa Governorate.

Lawzi said that agricultural extension teams from his department last month carried out 200 inspection tours of these lands, and provided advice and guidance to farmers and stock breeders in the region.

Referring to stock breeding, he said sufficient fodder is being made available to breeders, and vaccines are supplied to cattle and sheep.

Last month the department teams inoculated 75 heads of cattle and 8,000 sheep as well as 916,000 birds against common animal diseases, he said.

On the other hand, Zarqa Governor Eid Qataneh Monday made an inspection tour of Azraq, where he visited schools, health centres and post offices.

Later he called at the eastern regions of Jordan, including Hamzah oil wells, where he was briefed on the exploitation of crude oil and its transportation by trucks to the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company in Zarqa.

Marriott leads the way in staff training

"MARRIOTT'S business philosophy is to take care of our employees, keep them happy and content with their job and they in turn will take care of the customers," said Mr. Bill Marriott, chairman and chief executive of the Marriott Corporation in a recent interview with Business Life magazine.

This thinking has existed since Bill Marriott's father founded the company over 60 years ago. Today Marriott Hotels and Resorts have over 175 luxury hotels throughout the world. Great attention is paid to training programmes for staff as these not only develop and enhance skills but maintain a high level of motivation. Marriott has a policy of recruiting staff locally but with promotion from within the company so greatly encouraged, staff are often transferred to overseas hotels to further their careers.

This policy has been particularly evident at the Amman Marriott Hotel where to gain increased experience, several Jordanian employees have been transferred all over the Marriott network. According to Mr. Haile Aguiar, general manager of the Amman Marriott Hotel, employees have been transferred from Amman to Boston, El Paso Texas, Irvine, California, Torrance California,

Tampa Florida, London, Jeddah, New York and New Jersey.

Mrs. Asma Ma'ani, the director of Human Resources at the Amman Marriott Hotel puts this policy of continued training and promotion from within as the reason of Marriott's continued success. Mrs. Ma'ani gave the following examples of some of Amman's transferred employees: Mr. Ibrahim Barghout has been transferred to Irvine California where he is working as catering manager. Our former director of Human Resources, Mr. Hani Hijazi, was transferred to El Paso as their new director of Human Resources. Miss Abeer Nashashibi is now working in the Torrance Marriott as the restaurant manager. Mrs. Ma'ani also stated "We at the Marriott are proud of our employees and pleased to know that they are doing a fine job in their new locations."

Mr. Aguiar explained that the reason for transferring employees is to strengthen our Jordanian staff. "Currently the percentage of Jordanian employees in our hotel exceeds our goal of 80%." When asked for his plans for future transfers, Mr. Aguiar replied "We have several candidates; with more candidates and more permits will give us the chance to send more Jordanians to work abroad."

Khasawneh, Dudin receive Finnish delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Finnish Passikivi Council Monday met with Minister of Information Hani Khasawneh for a discussion on means of developing Finnish-Jordanian relations.

The minister referred to His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Finland and said that his positive outcome was instrumental in expanding cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

"Jordan is keen on further promoting bilateral ties," the minister said.

The 43-member delegation also Monday met with Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin and reviewed with him the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territory.

Dudin outlined Jordan's assistance to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to help the Palestinians in their economic and social projects, and maintain their steadfastness in the face of Israel's pressures on them to abandon their homeland.

Dudin also referred to Jordan's coordination of efforts with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) in providing essential services to the refugees on the East Bank of Jordan.

Referring to the current situation in the occupied territories, the minister said the Palestinian uprising there was a clear expression of their rejection of continued occupation and Israel's inhuman practices and pressures. The uprising he added was natural reaction for the long years of suffering and injustice.

PSD chief visits Karak

KARAK (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Majali Monday paid a visit to Karak, in southern Jordan, and announced that the PSD will soon embark on building four security centres in Karak, Qasr, Mazar and Qataneh.

Apart from providing security services, these centres will also renew licences for vehicles and motorists, take charge of foreign nationals' affairs, and carry out other duties essential for the local community, Majali said during a meeting with Karak Governor Mohammad Shobaki.

Majali hoped that these centres will be operational by the end of 1988, but added that there will be mobile security centres that will be roving remote regions in the south to serve local population settlements.

Also Monday, Majali made inspection tours of police stations in the Karak governorate.

Majali later visited Mu'ta University where he delivered a lecture on the concept of comprehensive security which, he said, involves the local community's cooperation with the police to maintain peace and security.

In his lecture, Majali also spoke about the general duties of the police departments and their relationship with the local courts, such as police courts, the court of appeal and the criminal courts.

Ministry plans to modernise post offices

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications is currently planning to increase the existing 1,000 post office boxes in the Kingdom in view of the constant demand.

The ministry is carrying out modernisation schemes on 207 post offices and office branches in different provinces. Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al-Haj Hassan announced here Monday.

He said that the country now has a total of 791 post offices and post office branches in different towns and villages, at the rate of one centre for every 3,700 persons, a proportion rarely found in the Developing World.

The minister noted that a new central post office for the Kingdom is being constructed now to further boost postal services, and the ministry is also carrying out an ambitious project for promoting postal services in the rural regions of the Kingdom.

Queen reviews reports on improving health conditions in Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday chaired a meeting to review reports by two separate committees on improving health conditions and promoting tourism in the Jordan Valley region.

cleanliness. She also urged officials to hold periodic meetings with local farmers to explain measures taken in this respect.

One of the committees submitted proposals on means of dealing with mosquitoes, flies and other insects, proper use of fertilisers and the disposal of plastic products and sheets after being used for agricultural purposes.

The committee recommended that a plan be worked out for constant spraying of different regions with insecticides, that farmers and owners of agricultural land build sanitary facilities for the approximately 120,000 workers employed on their lands, and that these farmers open large holes in the ground for the collection and treatment of manure as a temporary measure until a specialist is provided to advise on

their treatment. The committee also presented proposals for the treatment of plastic substances and said those ought to be collected in a number of areas so that a local company can collect them, and thus avoid their negative effect on agricultural land.

The second committee provided recommendations on promoting tourist facilities and creating public parks for vacationers, with essential sanitary services and other facilities.

The Queen, who spoke at the meeting, urged private and public sectors to cooperate for the sake of developing the Jordan Valley region, and safeguarding their

The Queen also took part in a clean-up campaign at the time by the school students and scouts. The meeting, which was held at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) was attended by Balqa Governor Mijhem Khreisha and other officials.

Later, Queen Noor met at the NHF with a committee conducting studies on the development of Sweimeh village near the Dead Sea.



Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh receives the Bulgarian Red Cross delegation in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Health ministry to participate in documentary film festival in Bulgaria

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry will take part in an international documentary film festival to be held next year in Varna, Bulgaria, to project its endeavours to spread awareness among the public in health related affairs, Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh said here Monday.

The minister, who was speaking at a meeting with a visiting delegation representing the Bulgarian Red Cross Society (BRCS), said that the Health Ministry will provide documentaries and pamphlets and other illustrations to project its efforts in the Kingdom.

The head of the delegation Kiril Ignatov extended a formal invitation to Hamzeh to visit Bulgaria and attend the international festival.

He also discussed health cooperation between Bulgaria and Jordan. The meeting was also attended by Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) President Ahmad Abu Oura.

Later, the delegation, accompanied by Abu Oura, visited Salt and inspected JNRCS operations and activities in the city and the Balqa Governorate.

They visited the Prince Abdullah Orphanage and the nursery school run by the society, and met with local officials.

The delegation visited the Madaba district to inspect the JNRCS activities there.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Ignatov paid tribute to efforts made by Jordan at all levels to achieve a lasting peace in the Middle East.

He said that the Bulgarian people support the just struggle of the Palestinian people, to regain their rights and lands, and condemn the Israeli repressive measures against the Palestinian people. Ignatov also paid tribute to Jordanian-Bulgarian cooperation in humanitarian services.

ment to the Jordan News Agency following a meeting of the ministry's Planning Committee that he heard a report on the health situation in the occupied West Bank and the hospitals' needs.

The minister said he will call on the Arab Health Ministers Councils, which will convene in Amman in the coming month, to provide financial help to enable the West Bank hospitals acquire ambulances and other equipment that can promote their work and operations specially under the present difficult circumstances.

The minister on Saturday was quoted as saying that contacts and consultations with different concerned parties were underway for purchasing a 50-dunum piece of land at Beit Hanina, in the outskirts of Arab Jerusalem, for setting up an Arab hospital.

Hamzeh said that the hospital will provide medical services to the local Arab population in the Jerusalem area, who were forced to seek such services at Israeli hospitals after the authorities closed down the Hospice Hospital three years ago.

Orthopaedists to West Bank

In a separate development, Hamzeh said the Health Ministry will soon provide West Bank hospitals with orthopaedists and a number of qualified nurses and midwives.

The minister said in a state-

Bedroom Farce opens Wednesday

AMMAN — Bedroom Farce, a comedy written by renowned British playwright Alan Ayckbourne and grouping eight famous actors, many of whom are well-known to millions of cinema and television viewers worldwide, opens Wednesday at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel.

Dubbed by world drama critics as "A wickedly funny play" Ayckbourne offers audiences a comic wily filled with frustrations of everyday life, late telephone calls, and ill-fitting coats, as he continues with his known themes of exploiting the hang-ups and social self-consciousness of middle-class families by invading another of their personal territories — their bedrooms.

With a four-couple cast covering various social moods; a sedate and middle aged couple recapturing their youthful abandon by costily eating tinned pilchards in bed; another pair, a bed-ridden bad-tempered executive and his efficient wife; the third, a young party-giving couple; and the fourth, a quarrelsome and marauding couple.

British comedian-turned-producer Derek Nimmo, the man behind getting this show started, will allow theatre lovers here to be entertained by three big stars: Barry Evans, whose global recognition came from his role as teacher of English in the TV series Mind Your Language, Joan Sims, known for her many outrageous characterisations in the series of films Carry On and Peter Jones, recognised through his successful series, Beggar My Neighbour.

The other five-glittering cast

members in this play, which was steered by veteran British director Hugh Goldie, are: Richard Denning, who starred in London's famous West-End Musical Me And My Girl, Judie Maynard, reputed for her role in the series Angels, and her starring together with Michael Caine in the film, Half Moon Street, David Harries, Caroline Webster and Primi Townsend.

The five-day performance event is organised by the hotel in cooperation with British Airways playhouse group which has been staging dinner theatre plays at the hotel since 1985, when these annual seasons first started.

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Breaking the chains

THE European Parliament's rejection of trade accords already negotiated with Israel is a significant event in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in that it has shown that the European Community (EC) has managed to break out of the shackles of the "guilty conscience" imposed on it by Nazi actions during World War II. It has always been a weapon that Israel never hesitated to use to have its way with the Europeans. But now it appears that the Zionist state has indeed overused it. Equally significant in the European Parliament's move is the fact that the EC is closely following up on its new-found will to adopt a stand of its own, after years of siding with Israel and leaving the U.S. to monopolise efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict. The chain of the changing trend in EC thinking was set off with the 1980 Venice Declaration of the community, produced the courageous Brussels Declaration of February 1987, was followed by harsh criticism of Israel's building settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, and culminated in last week's open condemnation of Israel's brutal handling of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Throughout this period, it was clear that a decade after the 1973 Arab oil embargo, the Europeans were gradually putting things in the right perspective, and accepting the fact that relations with the Arab World could not be limited to trade relations and issues related to protecting oil interests.

Predictably, Israel has raised a cry over last week's EC decision, saying condemnation of its practices against the Palestinians did not "reflect truth and reality."

The European Parliament's emphatic reminder to Israel that it can no longer hope to get away with murder — quite literally of course — is a freshening thought for the Arabs, who for decades have been trying to convince the Europeans of the dangers inherent in leaving the Palestinian problem unaddressed. While commending the European Parliament for its principled decision, we also hope it would show the same firm determination and assume the appropriate role that Europe should play, away from the influence of its friends across the Atlantic, and spearhead the quest for a just and comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King praises uprising

KING Hussein in a meeting with a Finnish delegation paid tribute to the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territory which he said is daringly and bravely confronting Israel's expansionist plans. The King said that the continuation of Israeli occupation of Arab territory and the oppression being exercised against the Arab people have brought about this uprising. It is time he said, that the world community found a proper measure for ending this occupation and helping the Palestinians to regain their lands and rights. The need is now great for holding an international conference under U.N. auspices to find a just and durable solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict which can ensure peace in the Middle East. The King's words were echoed by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who spoke to the delegation about the problem and about the need for a lasting settlement. The King said that Israel has been ignoring the idea of this conference and refusing to recognise the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinians. But the uprising came to abort Israel's plans and to force it to consent to the will of the international community.

Al Dustour: Israeli distortion

AS the uprising in the occupied territories continues to gain ground and win support world-wide, certain suspect circles chose to fish in muddy waters and to distort the pure and clear image of the Palestinian struggle. These sources have used an alleged statement issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, calling on the Palestinian members of Parliament to resign their posts which of course constitutes a serious danger to the unity and the united struggle of the people on both sides of the River Jordan. But the clarification given by the PLO and the genuine contents of the statement issued on the West Bank have underlined once again the pure image of the uprising and reasserted the sound course of the struggle against the Israeli invaders. The clarification also reaffirmed the national unity within the united family on the two banks of the river and proved that the national leadership is only concerned with ending occupation and adhering to the national unity between the two banks. King Hussein is confident that the Palestinian people can deal with such suspect sources and remove all elements of evil that mar the uprising and end all such suspect moves that only serve the Israeli enemy.

Sawt Al Shaab: An Israeli conspiracy

IT is good that the official Jordanian spokesman clarified the ambiguity behind a statement issued by the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising. The clarification made it clear to the people on both sides of the River Jordan that there exist certain suspect circles that aim to distort the uprising of the Palestinian people and thwart the noble cause of ending Israeli occupation and terrorism. No doubt the distorted statement had aimed to serve Israel which has been embarrassed on the domestic and external fronts because of its continued atrocities against the Arab people and its oppressive measures against the civilians. The clarification of the statement's contents underlined the importance of the national Jordanian unity, and also made it clear that Jordan was exercising a leading role towards ending the occupation and establishing peace. It is at this crucial time that Israel perpetrated a new conspiracy aimed at causing splits within the people of the united country on both banks of the river.

The remarkable feat of George P. Shultz

By Donald Neff

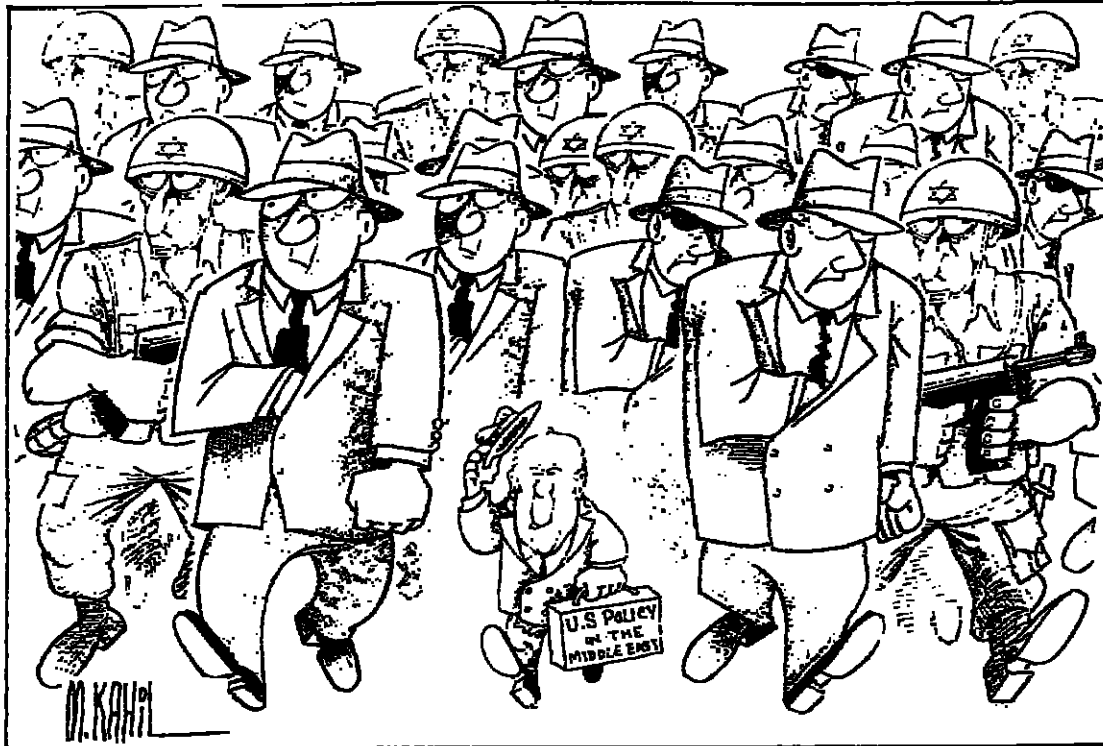
ANYONE harbouring a glimmer of optimism that the Reagan administration is going to go all out to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in its last 11 months in office is probably in for a disappointment. The record doesn't lend itself to a happy prognostication. It is this administration that in the past seven years has turned America's relationship with Israel into one of the strangest and closest in history. This remarkable feat is largely the work of Secretary of State George P. Shultz and it is sobering to examine how and why he did it.

Shultz was no newcomer to Washington when he became secretary of state in mid-1982. He came with a glowing reputation, partly based on the convoluted fact that Richard Nixon didn't like him. Nixon had once called Shultz a "candy ass" when he was secretary of the treasury and the president wanted Shultz illegally to harass some of his Watergate enemies. Shultz refused, thus earning Nixon's epithet and the respect of many admirers. The amusing thing to Washington's power structure was that far from being a candy ass, Shultz had a tiger tattoo back there. He got the tattoo during a burst of enthusiasm while a member of the Princeton football team — The Tigers — and Shultz the tiger was expected to do some quiet roaring in his new job.

"Within his first nine months [as secretary of state] Shultz shocked Israel with his tough actions."

Between his Washington stints, he had been president of the mammoth Bechtel Group Inc., the worldwide construction and engineering firm that had more than a few interests in Arab lands. Shultz, it was confidently predicted, could be counted upon to straighten out the grotesque pro-Israel policies of his predecessor, Alexander Haig. At first, Shultz appeared to be doing just that by acting with feline ferocity in the Middle East. Within his first nine months, he shocked Israel and its supporters with his tough actions. He twice threatened Arms Export Control Act sanctions against Israel for its illegal use of American weapons, and presided over President Reagan's 1982 peace plan despite vehement Israeli opposition.

For all this assertive statesmanship, Shultz began to be treated as though he had manged. He and his president began getting some of the worst press notices since Jimmy Carter said the Palestinians deserved a "home-land." By the late winter and spring of 1983, Time magazine was writing about the "Vacuum at State" and the Washington Post somehow concluded — despite all of Shultz's forceful actions against Israel — that "there is a growing body of thought that Shultz may be too quiet, that he may not be forceful enough." Israel's ambassador, Moshe Arens, complained to the New York Times that relations between the United States and Israel had worsened to a disastrous level. He said the "frustration and impatience and anger" in the relationship was perhaps the worst in history. Thus the man who had been widely hailed on his selection as secretary of state for his unruffled composure and his evenhanded view of the Middle East, the man who had headed one of the most powerful corporations in the world and had been the secretary of both the labour and treasury departments as well as director of the office of



management and budget, was only nine months later being pilloried as an incompetent.

What many news reports failed to mention was that underlying the drumbeat of criticism was a chorus of complaints that Shultz didn't recognise who America's real friends were. Decoded from the patois of America's domestic politics, that meant Shultz was being too harsh on Israel. Shultz, obviously no fool, quickly began to see the light, reportedly with the help of Undersecretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, a former protégé of Kissinger. Eagleburger's message to the beleaguered Shultz in the summer of 1983 was, in concentrated form, no less than this: He must either embrace the Israelis or spend all his time fighting them.

The record is clear what Shultz's Faustian choice was. There soon followed what Israel's supporters began calling admiringly a "revolution" in U.S. policy. Before 1983 was out (a year before the next presidential election, it might be noted), President Reagan signed on 29 October the top secret National Security Decision Directive 111. This seminal directive fundamentally and officially redefined U.S. goals in the Middle East. It called for strategic cooperation with Israel, the same country that during the past year Washington had criticised for its barbaric actions in Lebanon. The new policy resulted within a month in formalising the relationship with the signing on 29 November of a Memorandum of Understanding on strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel. Its putative purpose was to "enhance United States-Israeli cooperation" and to guard against "the threat to our mutual interests posed by increased Soviet involvement in the Middle East."

In fact, what this policy accomplished was the initiation of the greatest transfer of money and technology ever freely surrendered by one country to another. Under the strategic alliance, the U.S. and Israel established joint military and political committees, funding (to the tune of \$1.5 billion) was provided for Israel's ill-starred *Lavi* fighter, joint military exercises were held, stockpiling of U.S. military equipment in Israel was sanctioned, more extensive sharing of intelligence was agreed to, use of Israeli ports to service ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet was provided, Israel was granted the precious status of a non-Nato ally and a unique free trade zone was opened to give Israel duty free access to U.S. markets.

By 1986, this embrace by Shultz, and obviously by President Reagan, had resulted in an alliance between the two disparate

countries that was unprecedented in America's experience. The closeness of the unique relationship was best described by Thomas Dine, the executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the official Israeli lobby in America. At the group's 27th annual policy conference in 1986, Dine reported that relations had never been better between the United States and Israel. In the process of this development, he reported, "a whole new constituency of support for Israel is being built in precisely the area where we are weakest — among government officials in the state, defence and treasury departments, in the CIA, in science, trade, agriculture and other agencies." Israel, Dine added, is now treated by the United States as an "ally, not just a friend, an asset, rather than a liability, a mature and capable partner, not some vassal state." He added that Reagan and Shultz were going to "leave a legacy that will be important to Israel's security for decades to come." Shultz, he said, had vowed to him to "build institutional arrangements so that eight years from now, if there is a secretary of state who is not positive about Israel, he will not be able to overcome the bureaucratic relationship between Israel and the U.S. that we have established."

"Shultz, obviously no fool, quickly began to see the light."

That Shultz keep his word was obvious from Dine's report to the next AIPAC meeting in 1987. He told AIPAC members that "there is wide agreement that Ronald Reagan is among the best friends of Israel ever to sit in the Oval Office, and that George Shultz has been a friend beyond words as secretary of state... these last wars have truly transformed U.S. policy over the past five years, raising the relationship to a new level." Dine reported that despite a year in which there was the Pollard spy scandal, Israel's entanglement in the Iran/Contra scandal, Israel's selling of weapons to South Africa, unease about Israel's nuclear policy and leadership confusion in Israel, "we have had one of the best years on record in terms of concrete legislation, in the strategic relationship between our country and Israel, and in the gains scored by our cause in the results of the 1986 elections." Dine noted that from 1983, when Israel's sale of goods and services to the department of defence equalled \$9 million, such sales had reached in 1986 \$205 million. As for Congress, Dine reported "a year of extraordinary achievements... it

is not an understatement to say achievements have been spectacular."

He did not have to mention that by this time Israel was routinely receiving \$3 billion a year in U.S. aid, all of it in the form of an outright grant, massive transfers of U.S. technology, by which Israel profitably became a leader in the world arms market, and America's unreserved diplomatic support in the United Nations, which included the routine use of America's once rare veto to protect Israel from international condemnation for its various offences against world order. One would like to dismiss Dine's claims as the usual braggadocio of a lobbyist. Unfortunately, in this case, his assertions were all too true. As former CIA analyst Kathleen Christison recently observed in the *Journal of Palestine Studies*: "...The Reagan years have witnessed a marked change in the lobby's influence on policy-making. If in past administrations it was thought to have a major limiting impact on policy formulation, the magnitude of its influence today is so great that it can no longer be considered merely a constraint on policy. Under Reagan, AIPAC has become a partner in policy-making." She quoted the Middle East analyst to the National Security Council during the Carter administration, William Quandt, as saying: "We would sometimes go to the Israelis in advance of some action and ask them not to make trouble, but we never went to AIPAC. The Reagan administration has elevated AIPAC to the level of a player in its game."

Such acquiescence by Shultz to Israel's desires leaves little room for optimism that this lame duck administration is likely to undertake any serious effort at solving the Arab-Israeli conflict. Beyond that, these next 11 months will almost certainly mark the end of public service for Reagan, at the age of 77, and presumably, Shultz, 67. Why squander their last moments of glory ignominiously drowning in the no-win morass of the Middle East? More cogent is a final and unerring consideration. Even if Shultz and Reagan wanted to pressure Israel into concessions, the fact is they probably don't have enough strength in an election year vis-a-vis Congress, with its overwhelming pro-Israel bent, or time left in which to do it. The most they would likely accomplish is the last thing in the world they would like to have come about: The exposure for all to see that Washington in the Middle East really is what the Chinese used to accuse it of being — a paper version of that tattoo on Shultz's behind — Middle East International, London.

OPEN FORUM

Yankee go home

ONE day, and out of the blue, the future democratic state of Palestine will simply and bluntly say: "Yankee go home." The U.S. embassy will be ordered to close down, and sanctions will be imposed against the declining empire of the United States of America, on grounds of terrorism it instigated in the 1960s. This is just a mild fantasy of retaliation against the U.S. claims of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) mission at the United Nations in New York on grounds of terrorism.

The U.S., the terrorist state of Israel's best friend, has continuously injected billions of dollars into Israel's blood, and has constantly supplied highly advanced weapons to murder already homeless men, women and especially children. The Israelis usually enjoy chasing women and children before shooting them down, because they are slower runners and easier targets.

Those are not my words: I obtained them a few years ago from a sick-humoured U.S. ex-Marine who fought in Vietnam. He told me he particularly enjoyed shooting at women and children because they ran slower than the men.

It is time the U.S. learns the true meaning of terrorism before it comes to the rest of the world and preaches against it, and worse yet, takes unjustifiable action against it. The Americans can take action against terrorism once they accept that they are terrorists themselves, and supporters of terrorism. No one has forgotten the bombing of Tripoli that killed innocent civilians, including children, their support of contras who continuously aim at civilian targets, their inaction and refusal to impose sanctions against the medieval racist apartheid government of South Africa, and, of course, their wild support of Israel.

So who is the USA to say that the PLO are terrorists? Since when are terrorists resistance fighters who fight for their mere right of existence? Does this then mean that the resistance movement against the Nazis in occupied Europe can also be termed as terrorism?

Sana Abeyeh

Strife-torn Turkish left seeks strong leader

By John Owen-Davies
Reuter

ANKARA — Torn by dissent and facing a powerful political right, Turkey's once strong left wing is seeking a dynamic leader to take it out of the political wilderness.

A crisis in the main opposition Social Democrat Populist Party (SHP) and the resignation of former Premier Bulent Ecevit as head of the Democratic Left Party (DLP) have added to the left wing's woes.

But political sources believe the turmoil could lead to a regrouping of democratic leftists into a single cohesive force.

"The left knows it cannot survive unless it joins under a single banner. Ecevit's resignation eases the way. But who will be the leader is an open and tantalising question," one source said.

SHP member Deniz Baykal, a cabinet minister in the turbulent 1970s, said: "Since 1983 when new parties were established we have had a difficult time. We are trying to remodel the party system but we are successful only to a certain degree."

"No one can say the final party structure of the Turkish political system has taken its final stage," Baykal, who wants a two-party system, told Reuters.

Baykal, 50, is widely tipped to succeed Ertan Inonu as SHP leader.

Inonu stepped down late last month but agreed to retract his resignation, at least temporarily, to maintain party unity.

Political sources say Baykal, detained briefly after the 1980 military coup, would be a suitable leader while the search continued for a more dominant and charismatic figure in the Ecevit mould.

The left's problems began with the coup. It is still tainted in the eyes of some voters with extremist rage that led to three years of army rule and the disbanding of all political groups.

But signs are emerging that it could be a viable alternative to conservative Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's Motherland Party.

Ozal's party is also suffering internal strain, with strongly pro-Islamic and nationalist groups trying to weaken the positions of

more liberal colleagues in the government.

An opinion poll in the liberal daily *Gazetesi* showed that the SHP, despite its leadership crisis, now has a popularity rating of 37.9 per cent, compared with 35 per cent for the Motherland.

In last November's general elections, Ozal's popular vote fell to 36 per cent from 45 per cent in 1983. The SHP, which was not formed in 1983, had nearly 25 per cent.

The right-of-centre True Path Party (TPP), led by former Premier Suleyman Demirel held the major balance with nearly 20 per cent.

A main opposition irritant is that with only 36 per cent of the vote, Ozal's party won 292 seats in the 450-seat parliament, compared with 99 for the SHP and the TPP's 59.

The DLP, which took eight per cent of the national vote, won no seats.

"The fact that 64 per cent of the electorate are not for the Motherland has created some frustration in opposition ranks. That stress has been reflected in our party," Baykal said.

Inonu, 62, untainted by the violence of the 1970s, resigned because of dissent within the SHP which comprises centrist, liberal, trade unionist and pro-Kurdish groups.

"He took his decision at a critical juncture," an SHP source said. "I understand it was a very personal decision. He contacted nobody but just felt that way and acted."

"We all tried to convince him he had no right to make such a decision. The party has gained from retraction of his resignation... but we do not know what kind of face-lift we will have after the party congress in June," he added.

Political sources say Inonu, mild-mannered son of a former president, is supported by only one fifth of SHP members, compared with between one third and a half for Baykal.

Baykal says the left itself is partly to blame for the crises.

"Different parties have tried to capitalise on the left-of-centre political spectrum... Ecevit's personal domination played a role in handicapping our party," he said.

Court case: A trial of the Sadat era?

By Nejla Sammakia
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Anwar Sadat won the Nobel Peace Prize for his peace agreement with Israel, the admiration of the West for his social and political reforms and a reputation at home as a military hero.

But in the years leading up to his assassination in 1981 by Muslim extremists, many of his subjects turned against him.

The economic policies of those latter years of Sadat's rule were recalled in Egyptian court Saturday, when the former president's family returned for a hearing to determine whether the government can confiscate property the Sadat family acquired through corruption.

Although the case against Sadat's brother Esmat and 10 members of Esmat's immediate family is connected only remotely to the former president, the late president's detractors contend it is the economic policy of the Sadat presidency itself that will be in the dock. They contend that Sadat's open-door approach led

to the corrupt practices his brother was tried for and convicted of.

"Corruption increased in President Sadat's time," said Khaled Mohieddin, head of the opposition National Unionist Progressive Party, an umbrella group of Marxists and Nasserites. "People just grabbed money and ran away."

Like Sadat, Mohieddin was a member of the Revolution Command Council that ended the monarchy in 1952. The council acted under Gamal Abdel Nasser, republican Egypt's first president and Sadat's predecessor.

'Long live justice'

An appellate court considering the Esmat verdict in 1983 absolved Anwar Sadat of wrongdoing.

"The acts committed by Esmat Sadat and his family do not detract from the purity and integrity of the late President Sadat, and the dossier of the case is devoid of anything indicating he knew of these acts," the court said. But Esmat Sadat allegedly amassed an illegal fortune, despite later-

disclosed efforts by the president to stop his brother's profiting on their relationship.

Esmat's activities were so blatant that, according to a Mubarak confidant, President Hosni Mubarak told Esmat on the first anniversary of Sadat's assassination: "Your stench has spread throughout the country. I'm not going to protect anyone."

Shortly afterward, Esmat was arrested and tried. He, three sons and seven other family members were convicted of 24 counts of influence peddling, black marketeering and bribery, as eager crowds outside the courthouse cheered: "Long live justice."

The family members' property was sequestered, and Esmat and three of his sons served nine months of a one-year prison term. The maximum sentences would have been five years.

Infithal

"Esmat and his children were a dangerous burden on Anwar Sadat in his life and after his death," said Moussa Sabry, a Sadat confidant who writes a regular column at the government's

Al Akhbar newspaper.

"When you see they traded, and stole, and have millions, of course they used his name... People used to be intimidated into doing what they wanted... Some people say he was not responsible for his brothers, but of course it affects."

Esmat's trial spotlighted infithal, the open-door economic policy that Sadat came up with in the mid-1970s. With its loopholes, it created many Esmats, a class of the newly rich. Additionally, it created public frustration over a massive influx of flashy imports, from cars to designer sunglasses, that were unaffordable for most.

The policy served mainly private interests and foreign companies in joint ventures. Many wealthy businessmen, feeling Egypt's present economic pinch, look back with regret at Sadat's initiatives.

"Egypt was not being transformed from a planned to a market economy, but to a supermarket economy," wrote Hasanain Mohammedi, a close adviser of Nasser and of Sadat

until they fell out over foreign policy.

"The disrupting effect which this transformation had on Egyptian society can hardly be exaggerated," Heikal wrote in *Autumn of Fury*, a bitter book on Sadat's assassination that was banned in Egypt for two years after its publication in 1983.

In the book's introduction, Heikal said he collected much of his information from fellow prisoners after Sadat jailed him and 1,535 others in a crackdown on domestic dissenters a month before his death.

Sadat station

Some have watched closely to see whether the decision permitting sale of the book would start a downgrading of Sadat's memory. Sadat remains an honoured figure in government eyes, and the structure of government has not changed significantly since his death.

His portrait remains posted on a major suburban road behind a government building, and his family. His tomb in another

suburb shares a place of honour with that of Egypt's unknown soldier. The largest station of Cairo's new subway system, the first named, is "Sadat Station."

Nevertheless, much of the popular local support Sadat had won by making peace with Israel, and his vow of "no more war," was eroded by the wave of arrests in September 1981. Moreover, he cracked down on Muslim fundamentalists and shut down a half-dozen Muslim and Coptic Christian publications. He withdrew state recognition of Coptic Pope Shenouda III and banished him to a desert monastery, thereby alienating Egypt's 6 million Copts.

In her recently published memoirs, Sadat's widow, Hani, who isn't involved in the Esmat Sadat court case, testified that Sadat's star has not shone as brightly with his detractors as she feels it should have.

Someday, Egyptians will recognise what Anwar did for his country, and give him the place he deserves. "With patience, I wait."

Handwritten signature or mark.

OIC slams U.S. decision to close PLO mission

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has condemned the U.S. decision to close the PLO mission at the United Nations, describing it as a "dangerous precedent."

The OIC issued its denunciation after Sunday from its Jeddah headquarters and called for international action to counter the move. The PLO is a full member of the OIC.

The statement said the U.S. Justice Department move against the PLO office was taken "despite all U.N. rules and regulations, its pact and charter, and the diplomatic immunity it should enjoy."

"All peace-loving nations

throughout the world, all organisations and international bodies should act against this American decision which is a dangerous precedent of American hegemony over the international organisation," it said.

The statement noted the U.S. decision came as the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza entered its fourth month, spurring worldwide demands for a settlement of the Palestinian problem.

The United States ignored "the international will as expressed through the United Nations acceptance of PLO representation... exploiting its position as the country hosting the international organisation to impose its will without any respect for its charters and statutes."

The OIC denunciation came a few hours after Kuwait branded the U.S. move "a flagrant challenge to the Arab Nation."

The United Nations said the closure breaks the 1947 agreement which established U.N. headquarters in New York and Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar protested to Washington over the move.

The Reagan administration says it opposes the closure move, which was mandated under an "anti-terrorism" law passed by Congress last year.

Libya condemns U.S.

Libya has called on the United Nations to move its headquarters from New York following the U.S. decision.

The official Libyan news agency JANA said Sunday night the call was made in a letter addressed from Libyan Foreign Minister Jadhalla Azzouz Al Talhi to Perez de Cuellar.

The letter said the American decision was in defiance of "international will, a lack of respect by the United States to its commitments to the United Nations and a dangerous precedent which could be applied to other U.N. missions."

"This asserts that the United States is not fit anymore to host the United Nations headquarters and the international society should take up its responsibilities and move the United Nations headquarters to a peace loving country," it added.

Egypt plans Sudan mediation

KHARTOUM (Agencies) — Egypt will invite Sudanese government leaders and separatist rebels to a peace conference in Cairo to discuss their four-year-old conflict, a Sudanese newspaper said Monday.

The independent Al Usba newspaper said Ethiopia, which Khartoum backs the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) rebels, would also be invited to the proposed conference at the end of this month.

The report, quoting diplomatic sources, could not be independently confirmed.

Egyptian Prime Minister Atef Sedki will deliver the invitation from President Hosni Mubarak to Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi during a scheduled visit to Khartoum next week, the paper said.

Mahdi, SPLA leader John Garang and Ethiopian head of state Mengistu Haile Mariam would be invited, the paper said.

The SPLA, seeking independence for the mainly Christian and animist south from the Muslim north, held inconclusive talks with Egyptian officials in Cairo three years ago.

Sedki arranged a meeting in Khartoum in December between Mahdi and Mengistu to defuse border tension between them following a major rebel attack in Sudan.

4 killed, 8 wounded in simmering Lebanon feuds

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Five people were killed and eight wounded in 24 hours of scattered shootouts and bombings in Lebanon, police said Monday.

The violence reflected tensions between rival forces in the strife-torn country that have simmered despite a lull in the 13-year-old civil war and factional feuding.

Police identified the slain as two officers from the "Lebanese forces," the Christian-led rightist militia, another from the Druze-dominated Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia and two Palestinians.

Among the casualties was Nimen, "an attorney, critically wounded when a time-bomb exploded on a window ledge outside the bathroom of his west Beirut apartment as he was shaving Monday, police said."

Hameh, a former chairman of Lebanon's bar association, was rushed to the Barbir hospital by neighbours, police said. They declined to speculate on the motive for the assassination attempt.

The two "Lebanese Forces" officers were killed Sunday by bodyguards of President Amin Gemayel's 18-year-old son, Pierre, in a quarrel in a traffic-jammed street in the port of Jounieh, 20 kilometres north of Beirut, police said.

The militia command identified them as George Shawah and Ziad Habbah.

Police said that the young Gemayel's bodyguards fired shots in the air to clear a way through the traffic jam for the car in which the president's son was riding.

The two Lebanese Forces officers ran out from a nearby cafe to find out what was happening and began arguing with Gemayel's men.

Police said the bodyguards then shot the two militiamen, both from powerful Christian clans in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon. The young Gemayel was not hurt.

The two sides have been vying for dominance of the Christian

community, whose control of the government, army and parliament triggered the civil war in 1975.

Amal-PSP flare-up

The PSP militia officer was killed Sunday evening in an ambush by militiamen of Justice Minister Nabih Berri's Shi'ite Amal movement in the Rashaya district in the foothills of Mount Hermon in South Lebanon, police said.

The killing sparked a wave of reprisal kidnappings between Amal and the PSP and it took Syrian intervention to defuse the situation, sources quoted by Reuters said.

They said Muhssen Mugames, a PSP official in the Bekaa Valley, died Sunday night in a hail of bullets in the village of Suhmor, controlled by Syrian troops.

The killing provoked a spate of kidnappings between the PSP and the Amal militia as both groups set up checkpoints in the area.

The sources said the PSP grabbed five Amal militiamen while five Druze men, including one aged 90, were seized in a counter-abduction.

"All 10 were released after Syrian troops deployed in the area to end the dispute," one source said.

Amal and the PSP fought fierce street battles last year in west Beirut over control of the western part of the Lebanese capital.

The fighting, in which 237 people died, was halted when Syria, the main foreign power broker in Lebanon, set 7,000 troops to crack down on militia anarchy and lawlessness.

Barajneh shootout

Two pro-Syrian Palestinian guerrillas were killed in a clash with fighters loyal to Yasser Arafat at Beirut's Bourj Al Barajneh

refugee camp, Palestinian sources said.

They said guerrillas of the dissident Fatah movement, backed by Syria, exchanged machinegun fire for 20 minutes Sunday night with rivals loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Arafat's mainstream Fatah.

They said the exchanges in the narrow alleys of the camp were triggered by a personal argument among the guerrillas.

Three Lebanese army soldiers and a woman were shot and wounded by a drunken gunman Sunday as they were lunching at a seaside restaurant in the town of Halat, 40 kilometres north of Beirut, police said.

It was not known why the gunman started shooting, police said. The assailant ran away after the shooting.

Hizbollah threat

In another development, pro-Iranian militants marking the third anniversary of a car bomb that killed more than 80 people have threatened to mount attacks against the United States and step up attacks on Israel.

"We should not forget that America is behind all the massacres and crimes," said Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, a senior official of Hizbollah (Party of God) at a mass rally in south Beirut's Bir Al Abed district Sunday. Excerpts of his speech were published by Beirut newspapers Monday.

"We have war and we have terrorism to use against America to defend the interests of the Muslims and the oppressed," Nasrallah said.

"We are always ready to teach the wild beasts in the world a lesson."

The Iranian-backed Hizbollah has accused the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency of masterminding the March 8, 1985, car bombing in Bir Al Abed with the help of the Lebanese army's intelligence branch.

Meese 'personally briefed' Peres on pipeline deal

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A memo by a longtime friend of Attorney General Edwin Meese describes the two men joining in a 10-minute "briefing" of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres on a proposed \$1-billion Iraqi pipeline.

The memo by Robert Wallach, disclosed in Sunday editions of the Washington Post, says Peres "literally dragged me off into a corner" and began discussing the pipeline "intensely" at an Israeli embassy reception in Washington Oct. 16, 1985.

The document says that in the crush of activity at the reception, Peres then asked Wallach to wait until after the event to discuss the pipeline further.

"Fortunately, as the time approached, my friend (Wallach's usual phrase for Meese) arrived and there was a three-way discussion which took approximately 10 minutes," said Wallach's memo.



Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (left) with Baruch Rappaport during a visit to the Swiss financier's office in Israel last week.

consisted of "only two contacts... each was brief and limited and neither was initiated by me."

A second memo by Wallach, also described in Sunday editions of the Post, recounts a meeting in New York — a few days after the embassy reception in Washington — involving Peres, Wallach, then-National Security Council (NSC) aide David Wigg and the Israeli ambassador to the United States.

Wallach said the meeting lasted about 15 minutes and that the four discussed two proposed letters for Peres to sign. The first committed Israel not to disrupt the pipeline and the second dealt with the concepts of using U.S. foreign aid to Israel as insurance for the project.

Peres' version

Peres said he recalls having met Wallach only twice, on social occasions with others present.

Peres eventually signed a letter version of the first letter. Peres said he could not act on a second letter without additional consultation in Israel, Wallach's memo said.

The pipeline project collapsed shortly thereafter for lack of an insurance package. The Justice Department saw legal impediments to using Israeli aid money.

Finally, National Security Adviser John Poindexter, on the advice of former NSC adviser William Clark, killed U.S. involvement in the project.

Meese's involvement with the proposed pipeline is under criminal investigation by independent counsel James McKay, who launched a probe of Meese's activities last May 11.

Meese's lawyers, said that he had profited from the stock trades involving \$150,000, said, "I knew nothing about this money being paid."

China's company had a separate financial arrangement with Meese. The attorney general said that in any event, his financial arrangements with China were set up as a limited blind partnership.

"I had no way of knowing what was being done or how it was being managed," Meese said in the financial arrangements.

In a statement issued Feb. 1, Meese said that his total involvement with Peres on the pipeline

office by partisan political attacks, by media barrages, then no one as a public official is safe," he said.

On Sunday, James Roca, one of Meese's lawyers, said that "Wallach's account totally exaggerates" the discussion "in order to impress his (Wallach's) client."

Stock trades

Wallach was legal counsel to Swiss oilman Bruce Rappaport, a partner in the proposed project. Two months before the embassy reception, Rappaport had paid Wallach \$150,000, which Wallach directed to be sent to an account owned by W. Franklin China, an investment manager at the time for both Wallach and Meese.

Wallach's money was in effect pooled in several stock trades

with Meese's funds, sources familiar with a criminal investigation of Meese, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Friday.

Meese, asked about reports that he had profited from the stock trades involving \$150,000, said, "I knew nothing about this money being paid."

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Mirghani in Libya

Meanwhile, Sudanese head of state Ahmad Ali Al Mirghani, seeking improved ties between Libya and Egypt, has started talks in Tripoli, the Libyan news agency JANA said Monday.

JANA said Mirghani met Abdul Salam Jalloud, Libya's second in command to Colonel Muammar Qadhafi, after arriving Sunday night.

Sudan's Al Adwa newspaper Saturday said Mirghani would propose to Qadhafi that Libya and Egypt halt media attacks on each other, refrain from interfering in each other's affairs and pull back border troops.

In a later phase, they would resume diplomatic relations, it said. Both countries border Sudan.

JANA quoted Mirghani as telling reporters at the airport his visit aimed at "consultations for the good of the Arab Nation and to discuss the problems of the area and find solutions for peace and stability."

He added that the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza would be "a priority in the discussion."

Egypt fought a brief border war with Libya in 1977 and has reacted suspiciously to past mediation attempts, largely because it believes Tripoli was behind several sabotage operations in Egypt.

Qadhafi, in an interview published Sunday in Cairo, rejected attempts to restore ties.

"We do not have interests in Egypt and Egypt does not have interests in Libya... ignore our presence on the map and we will also ignore yours... thank God we have the desert and the sea of sand to separate us," he told Sawt Al Arab weekly.

Washington rally protests Israeli policies

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 3,000 people carrying Palestinian flags and chanting slogans marched to the White House Sunday to protest Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Many of the protesters carried signs saying, "Israelis: Stop killing babies" and "Palestinians deserve statehood."

They condemned U.S. policy toward Israel, chanting, "Reagan, Shultz, you will see — Palestine will be free."

The demonstrators called on the White House to freeze U.S. aid to Israel until the Israeli government supports and participates in the peace process.

They also asked for a moratorium on military aid to Israel until there is a political settlement and urged the administration of President Ronald Reagan to establish direct contact with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who opposes a U.S. peace plan for the Middle East, was due to arrive in Washington Monday for talks with Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz.

Meanwhile, about 300 pro-Israel demonstrators rallied near

the offices of the ABC television network to protest its coverage of the clashes between soldiers and Arabs in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"American viewers expect the whole story, not half-truths," Moshe Roumani, a professor at the University of Maryland, told the crowd gathered about a half block from the ABC offices. The demonstrators later marched past the network's entrance.

Protesters carried banners saying, "Half the truth equals a whole lie," "ABC — Arab propaganda network," and "Peter Jennings — PLO's man on TV," a reference to the network's evening anchorman.

A spokesman from ABC news was not immediately available for comment.

Speakers urged the crowd to write or call the network to protest the coverage, while organisers sought signatures on petitions calling upon the media "to report the entire story."

"We believe ABC news, along with the other major media, has been presenting a significant amount of news from the Middle East in a manner that is biased against Israel," the petition said. The group planned to deliver

the petitions to the news divisions of ABC, CBS, NBC, Cable News Network, Mutual Broadcasting System, National Public Radio and the Public Broadcasting System, and the managing editors of the Associated Press, the New York Times, Reuters, United Press International and the Washington Post.

Kissinger denies report

Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger denied Sunday that he had suggested the Israeli government should put down the Palestinian uprising brutally and bar the media from violence-wracked areas.

Kissinger, in an interview on the U.S. television network NBC, denied reports he had said at a breakfast six weeks ago that Israel should put down the uprising "as quickly as possible, overwhelmingly, brutally and rapidly."

Kissinger, secretary of state under presidents Nixon and Ford, was also reported as saying that Israel should bar the media from entering the violence-torn areas as the South African government has done there, and accept the short-term international criticism that would result.

Jordan exerts generous effort to back Palestinian revolt

(Continued from page 1)

that the fund had already channelled JD 30,000 in monthly assistance to families of martyrs. The amount of monthly aid ranges between JD 50 and JD 85, depending on the social status and other related aspects of the family in question, Allawi said.

The fund's list of beneficiaries is updated on a daily basis as more and more Palestinians are killed or wounded each day.

Allawi said the Zakat Fund was also financially supporting those West Bankers and Gazans studying in Jordan's four universities who have lost their sources of income in the occupied territories. The fund paid JD 50 each in January to 1,000 students, raising the fund's overall contribution to nearly JD 80,000.

Allawi said public contributions collected by the fund fell quite short of the needs and planned allocations.

Though affiliated with the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, the fund operates independently from the ministry. Its funds are generated from individual contributions in conformity with Islamic law.

Allawi said that the fund runs affiliated groups in both banks for the collection and distribution of funds. He noted that the ministry spends half of its JD 10 million budget in the West Bank.

Allawi indicated he was not in favour of the parallel private sector effort. The most feasible and practically sound way of supporting the uprising is for the private sector to coordinate and join efforts with the fund, he said.

Private sector effort

The private sector "Popular Committee for the Steadfastness of the Uprising" has collected approximately JD 500,000 and already channelled half of the amount into the occupied territories,

ies, according to its Secretary General Mamdouh Abbadi. The committee is headed by Arab Bank Chairman Abdul Majid Shoman.

Abbadi, president of the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), defended the committee's independent effort saying its operations were accurately reaching the desired targets in the occupied territories.

He dismissed possible duplication of channelled funds saying that the families of martyrs deserved all what they received.

Abbadi said the committee's activities included individual contributions, public rallies and fund-raising events. He said several private organisations, professional associations and banks had allotted one day, or more, of staff salaries.

The contributions are tax deductible.

The JMA alone collected JD 60,000 during the first week of the uprising, creating the nucleus of the committee, which has a 12-member executive committee and a 100-member general assembly, Abbadi said.

The committee's objective is funding humanitarian and medical efforts; it has already paid JD 1,000 to the family of every martyr and JD 200 to every injured Palestinian. Furthermore, the committee has contributed JD 75,000 to West Bank and Gaza hospitals and medical centres, families of detainees and charitable societies, Abbadi said. The committee is seeking to send 12 ambulances to the occupied territories with the help of various international organisations, he added.

The committee is dedicated to maintaining support for the Palestinians under occupation so long as the uprising sustained, Abbadi said. The committee receives an average of JD 100,000 in contributions every week, he added.

Reply to U.S. plan delayed pending Arab consensus

(Continued from page 1)

idea of the suggested conference and its functions very vague. Thus, an Arab reply is expected to insist that the conference should have powers to guarantee the outcome of the negotiations. In particular, the U.N. Security Council will be expected by the Arabs to guarantee implementation of agreements reached.

The Arab side, and particularly Jordan, is expected to stress in its reply that the PLO should be included in the negotiations through a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. Authoritative Jordanian sources have confirmed to the Jordan Times that Jordan pressed for a modification of the phrasing of the first draft of the Shultz plan.

According to a report by Agence France Presse, Jordan was behind changing the phrase "between all the countries involved" to "negotiations among all the parties involved" to ensure the participation of the PLO. The sources told the Jordan Times that the change was made upon a request by His Majesty King Hussein during his first meeting with Shultz in London in the fourth week of February. The sources added that "countries involved" was changed into "parties involved" in the final draft of Shultz letter following his meeting with President Ronald Reagan in Brussels the next day after the King's talks with the secretary of state. When Shultz returned to London to meet the King for the second time in the same week the letter was modified. But PLO officials said the modification was not enough since the American conditions for opening talks with the organisation remained unchanged. Furthermore, the deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, told the Jordan Times last week that the PLO was insisting on a separate delegation. Other Palestinian sources said that this view reflected PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's opinion.

Arab officials also said that the Shultz letter remained vague on the procedure of negotiations. For example, the letter indicates that the progress of Syrian-Israeli negotiations should not affect the progress of negotiations between

the Israelis and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. In the Arab officials' view, none of the Arab countries should be allowed to sign a final treaty with Israel until progress is made in all bilateral talks. Thus, if Syria agrees with Israel on the future of the Golan Heights it cannot sign an agreement until an agreement is reached between the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the Israelis in a concluding meeting.

The Arab officials said that Arab governments were not opposed to the idea of phasing out a settlement leading to a final comprehensive solution. But they believe the phases should be connected with each other to guarantee that a final settlement is reached and so that the different aspects of conflict are not segmented and fragmented. The Arab fear is that an implementation of one phase without ensuring that it will be followed by the next may lead to partial solution which is rejected by all Arab countries and the PLO.

Finally, any Arab reply to the U.S. plan will stress the need to address the Palestinian question in all its aspects.

No date has been set for Arafat's visit to Jordan in response to an official invitation extended by King Hussein.

Furthermore, no agreement has been reached among the Palestinian factions represented in the PLO's Central Committee over Arafat visiting Jordan.

The PLO's answer and final position on Jordan's reply could be complicated by the controversy over a leaflet, which was supposedly issued by the Unified Command of the Palestinian Uprising. The leaflet called for the resignation of West Bankers from the Jordanian Parliament.

According to Palestinian sources, there were two leaflets. Copies of both, obtained by the Jordan Times, reflected tactical differences within the factions inside the occupied territories. The sources said that there had been an agreement between the PLO leadership, the Unified Command for the Uprising and all factions represented in the PLO that no attack against Arab governments would be included in the communiqués.

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Iraqi raids force Tehran to import large amounts of refined oil products

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran has been forced to sharply increase its imports of refined petroleum products, such as kerosene and jet fuel, because Iraqi air raids have badly damaged some of its main oil refineries, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) reported Monday.

The respected weekly oil industry newsletter said West Germany's Laripax Company chartered the 284,398-ton Liberian supertanker Patria to carry 1.8 million barrels of gas oil to the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas from Rotterdam.

It said two shipments totalling 900,000 barrels of gas oil were delivered to Iran earlier this month.

Iran, a major oil producer, has been importing around 300,000 barrels a day of refined products for 18 months because Iraqi air strikes have reduced its refining capacity.

The newsletter said that the big refinery on Tehran's southern

outskirts was badly damaged in an Iraqi air raid Feb. 27 and its output of 220,000 barrels a day curtailed.

That attack triggered off a renewed "war of the cities" between the two countries, at war for 7½ years, with both sides lobbing long-range missiles into each other's capitals.

The survey said another refinery in the northwestern city of Tabriz was only working at around half its normal capacity of 80,000 barrels a day.

Iran's pre-war refining capacity of around 1.3 million barrels a day is believed to have been slashed by as much as two-thirds since the war began in September

1980. The big Abadan refinery, with a capacity of 625,000 barrels a day, was knocked out early in the fighting when Iraqi forces invaded Iran's oil-rich southwestern Khuzestan province, oil industry sources estimated.

Iran's refineries have been repeatedly bombed. The Tehran refinery was working at only 60 per cent of capacity for months before it was repaired shortly before Feb. 27 raid.

The other refineries are at Shiraz in the south, Bakhtaran in the west, Isfahan in central Iran and Lavan in the southern Gulf.

Tehran had to start importing refined products after the Abadan refinery was lost.

But imports were tripled to around 300,000 barrels a day in late 1986 after a sustained Iraqi air offensive against key industrial targets including refineries. It also forced Iran to impose gasoline rationing for the first time.

The Iraqi air force has been

concentrating on hitting Iran's oil industry, mainstay of its economy, and attacking tankers carrying its oil exports, the country's economic lifeline, since 1984.

The newsletter estimated that despite these attacks, Iran is currently estimated to be producing around 1.9 million barrels a day and exporting around 1.5 million barrels a day through the Gulf.

Industry sources said that the Iranians are driving to expand their refining capacity. The Isfahan plant has been upgraded to a capacity of 280,000 barrels a day.

The Iranians are currently seeking to buy a second-hand refinery and are moving ahead with plans to build new plants at Arak in western Iran and Bandar Abbas on the Gulf coast.

They would have a combined capacity of more than 250,000 barrels a day that would restore Iran's refining self-sufficiency. Iran's domestic consumption is estimated at around 700,000 barrels a day.

Jordan's energy minister stresses need to bolster Arab cooperation, links

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Arab countries are in dire need of promoting cooperation in the exploitation of energy resources and the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is the right forum to lead the Arab World in this field, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Al Khatib said here Monday.



Hisham Al Khatib

OAPEC can expand its base and create an Arab Energy Organisation benefiting all Arab countries, the minister said in an address to the opening session of an Arab energy conference which opened in the Iraqi capital.

Referring to Jordan's energy endeavours, the minister said that the Kingdom was doing all it can to link its national power grid with those of neighbouring Arab states.

Jordan has already linked its grid with Syria and Iraq, the minister noted.

The minister also said that Jordan maintains cooperation with Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia which together provide the King-

dom with its needs of crude oil. Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi referred in his speech to the Amman Arab summit meeting last November which he said opened the way for greater Arab cooperation in different fields.

Following the opening session, Khatib said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra that the four-day conference will tackle three working papers submitted by Jordan, along with others from different countries.

The Jordanian papers deal with energy conservation, efficient uses of energy resources and energy for industry, the minister explained.

S. Arabia opposes OPEC oil output cut

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said Monday his country opposed oil production cuts by OPEC to halt a recent slide in world prices.

Arab oil experts and officials from 18 countries opened an energy meeting in Baghdad as Iran slammed two missiles into the Iraqi capital in a resumption of the deadly war of the cities between the two Gulf war belligerents.

Nazer told reporters: "No, I don't think there ought to be an output cut by OPEC."

His remark immediately hit the price in Europe of North Sea Brent, the most widely traded crude on world spot markets.

Brent for delivery in April had fallen nearly 50 cents a barrel to \$14.55 by 1300 GMT from its European close Friday of around \$15. Brent closed in New York Friday around \$14.90.

Nazer said consultations were under way within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to find ways to restore its grip on world oil prices, undermined since January by oversupply.

But he appeared to oppose a call by some OPEC members for an emergency meeting of the group's price committee, to which Saudi Arabia belongs.

Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan presided over the opening, calling for renewed efforts by producing countries to stabilise the world oil market. Iraq's war-battered economy — like Iran's — is heavily

dependent on oil revenue.

Oil prices have sunk as much as \$4 below OPEC's fixed reference price of \$18 a barrel in recent weeks because of excess supply.

Algeria last week said OPEC needed to make fresh output cuts to keep prices from falling further, but Nazer disagreed.

Rumours of an impending OPEC output cut, denied by the group's Vienna headquarters, helped boost prices on the free or spot oil market last week by about \$1, which Nazer called a very good sign.

But he appeared to reject any moves that would cut OPEC's share of world oil production to the possible benefit of non-OPEC producers.

Saudi Arabia has led a group of OPEC states more concerned with maintaining given output levels than raising prices. Other OPEC states, led by Iran, favour output cuts and higher prices.

OPEC states pumped around 17.3 million barrels per day (b/d) last month, up from January's 16.9 million b/d. No member appears to be violating the quota set for it by last December's OPEC meeting, although Iraq is producing at will, having rejected a quota less than that of Iran.

Nazer declined to say what Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, might do if prices continued to decline and it was unable to sell at the official OPEC price.

Oil traders have speculated the kingdom may grant discounts to its Japanese term contract buyers

in addition to those already available to four U.S. multinationals.

"We are not talking about mar-

ket share. We're not talking about prices. We will just wait and see," Nazer said.

Jordanian industrial companies to back uprising by JD 300,000

AMMAN (J.T.) — The industrial sector is expected to contribute more than JD 300,000 to the Palestinian people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to enhance their uprising and steadfastness against the Israeli occupation, Amman Chamber of Industry President Khaldoun Abu Hassan said.

He said that the industrial companies in the Kingdom have so far offered a total of JD 200,000 but much more is expected to be raised in a campaign organised by

the chamber for the benefit of the Palestinian cause.

Abu Hassan, who was addressing a meeting organised by the Jordanian National Committee for supporting the Arab people in the occupied lands, said that Arabs under Israeli oppression are setting an example of heroism and defiance in their confrontation with the enemy, and therefore they ought to be supported morally and materially by their brothers in the Arab countries.

Arab Society of Certified Accountants to participate in Washington meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA) will participate in the first board meeting of the International Audit Practice Committee (IAPC) which will take place in Washington March 15-17.

The election of ASCA to the board of IAPC represents the first Arab presence in this international professional committee. ASCA, through its presence on the committee, will highlight the scientific and cultural role of Arab accountants and will make

sure that any future audit practice standards will be in harmony with the Arab World needs.

The committee, which is the highest international authority on auditing standards, will discuss a number of reports from the sub-committee and other matters of interest to the accounting profession. ASCA President Talal Abu Ghazaleh will submit recommendations on the various working papers which will be presented.

JAMPCO starts purchasing potatoes from local farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) centres in South Shumeh and Wadi Al Yabes have started purchasing potato crops from local farmers to be marketed in Jordan and abroad, according to JAMPCO Director General Ghazi Abu Hassan.

Abu Hassan was speaking during an inspection tour of the Jordan Valley region where he met with local agricultural officials and discussed with them crop production and government policies and subsidies to encourage output.

JAMPCO is going ahead with export programmes in European markets in implementation of previously concluded contracts and agreements in addition to the fact that the company is making contacts to conclude new contracts with these countries, Abu Hassan noted.

The company, he added, has set specifications for locally produced potatoes, and he called on local farmers to abide by them so as to safeguard their interests.

Some of the potatoes, he noted, are being exported to Saudi Arabia, and it is hoped that other Arab markets will be opened for Jordanian potatoes provided high quality is guaranteed.

Tabbaa meets industrialists

AMMAN (Petra) — Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa Monday discussed with owners of tissue paper factories the general production conditions and means of cooperation for promoting this local industry.

Agreement was reached at the meeting on setting up a committee grouping representatives of the Ministry of Industry and the Amman Chamber of Industry to coordinate work between these factories.

Tabbaa met later with a West German delegation of specialists in standardisation and specifications and discussed with them a study which was conducted by the delegation in cooperation with the Royal Scientific Society, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Jordanian chambers of industry and trade and the Jordan University of Science and Technology.

The minister also met with the charge d'affaires of the Polish embassy here to discuss economic matters of mutual concern.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — A decline in activities continued Monday as trading amounted only to 200,937 shares, JD 305,861 and 326 contracts. However, trading at the parallel market was higher than usual at 97,612 shares and JD 71,523.

The Intermediate Petrochemical Industries Company recorded the highest figures of 44,950 shares, JD 66,663 and 50 contracts. Traded shares of the Jordan Lime and Silicate Brick Industries Company totalled 34,200 but the volume was only JD 8,892 spread over 20 contracts.

In terms of volume and number of contracts, the National Steel Industries Company ranked second on a total of JD 55,037 spread over 37 deals (18,650 shares) followed by the Jordan Cement Factories Company on a total of JD 33,669 (31,466 shares).

Shares of 43 companies were traded Monday but 36 of them did not exceed the 10,000 level in either volume or number of shares. The only company which remained volatile in price was the Arab Bank which traded as high as JD 114,000 and as low as JD 113,500.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One Sterling	1.8570/80	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2550/60	Canadian dollar
	1.6582/87	Deutsche marks
	1.8630/40	Dutch guilders
	1.3672/82	Swiss francs
	34.6772	Belgian francs
	5.6370/6400	French francs
	1228/1229	Italian lire
	126.73/83	Japanese yen
	5.9000/50	Swedish crowns
	6.3010/60	Norwegian crowns
	6.3380/3430	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	441.90/442.40	U.S. dollars

WORLD STOCK MARKET ROUNDUP

SYDNEY — Shares ended higher as buyers sought major industrial and resource stock in sparse trading. The All Ordinaries index closed 7.0 points up at 1,361.3.

TOKYO — Shares closed lower as cautious investors began to close books ahead of the fiscal year-end and U.S. January trade data. The Nikkei index fell 110.22 points, 0.43 per cent, to 25,433.51.

HONG KONG — Prices closed lower in active trading as a bout of profit-taking wiped out early gains. The Hang Seng index dropped 10.77 points to 2,584.68.

BOMBAY — Prices fell on heavy profit-taking by institutional investors focused on shares that had risen sharply following relaxation of curbs on forward dealings.

FRANKFURT — Shares recovered from a weak opening to end mixed in low turnover. The Commerzbank index at mid-session fell to 1,390.6 from 1,392.1.

ZURICH — Shares closed steady on fairly low turnover, with investors showing caution ahead of U.S. January trade data due Thursday. The All SXKE-Swiss index was virtually unchanged at 849.7.

PARIS — Shares opened the main session 0.22 per cent lower in very quiet trading ahead of elections next month. President Mitterrand has yet to declare if he will run for a second term.

LONDON — Shares were mixed with a firmer bias at mid-session but trading was light. At 1307 GMT the FTSE 100 index stood at 1,819.7, up 8.1.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks remained generally lower but blue chips edged higher. The Dow 30 was up seven at 2,042 in early trading.

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on Jabal Hussein

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TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

For the supply of equipment, tools and training aids.
Tender No. (115)

1. The Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) invites sealed bids for the supply — in (5) packages — of equipment, tools, training aids and office machines, in the areas of instrumentation training in Trade Training Centre / Yajuze.
2. This project is financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), in various currencies.
3. This invitation for bids is open to all suppliers from eligible source countries (member countries of World Bank, Switzerland and Taiwan / China).
4. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain a complete set of bidding documents against a non-refundable sum of (US \$50) and upon submission of a written application to the office of:

Vocational Training Corporation,
P.O. Box (925837),
Amman,
Jordan.
Tel: 23570 VTC JO.
Tel: 667197/667198/660164/660165.

5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect the bidding documents at, the above mentioned office.
6. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security bond of not less than 3 per cent of the bid amount, and must be delivered to the above mentioned office on or before (10.00 a.m.) local time, on (Wednesday) the (June 1, 1988).
7. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders' representatives — who choose to attend — at the time and date mentioned in (6) above at the offices of VTC, Amman, Jordan.

Irbid District Electricity Co. Ltd.

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Sixth Power Project
(Invitation For Bids (IFB))

Date: 10th March 1988
Loan 2710-0-JO
IFB NO IBRD 9/87

1. The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the cost of the Sixth Power Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for tubular steel pipes, bolts and steel strips.
2. The Irbid District Electricity Company now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of tubular steel pipes.
3. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of:

Director General
Irbid District Electricity Company,
P.O. Box 46 Irbid - Jordan
Telex 51528 KHRBCO JO

4. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of U.S. \$25 or JD equivalent.
5. All bids must be accompanied by a security of not less than 2% of the bid price and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 hours (local time) on Wednesday 27th April 1988.
6. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend at 1200 hours on the date given in the letter supplied with these documents at the offices of Irbid District Electricity Company.

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CONCORD

Tel: 677420

PREDATOR

Performances: 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

WHEELS OF FIRE

Performances: 3.15, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30

NIJOU CINEMA

Tel: 675573

MASTER BLASTER

Performances: 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

FERRIS PULLERS DAY OFF

Performances: 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Sabatini bags 1st victory over Graf

BOCA RATON, Florida (R) — Fourth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina upset top-seeded Steffi Graf of West Germany 2-6, 6-3, 6-1 for the first time in 12 meetings in the singles final (Sunday) of the \$300,000 Florida Women's Tennis Tournament.



Gabriela Sabatini

Sabatini, world five, snapped Graf's 30-match winning streak and called this one of the best tournaments of her career. In the semifinals she had beaten No. 2 seed Chris Evert for the first time in six career meetings.

"This is one of my best weeks for sure. It's not easy to explain how I feel. When I went out there I thought I could win. I think I was ready to beat her this time," said Sabatini.

Graf, the world's top player, appeared to be in control of the match after she lost just two games in the first set and led 3-2 with a service break in the second

set. The 18-year-old West German said: "She should have taken control and won the match. 'I had a good first set, and I was leading 3-2 in the second. I should've won in two sets. I wasn't ready for a third set,'" said

Graf, who was suffering from a mild cold.

Sabatini broke Graf, the defending champion, in the sixth game of the second set for 3-3 and took control of the match. The 17-year-old Argentine then won 10 of the last 11 games, including the last six as Graf repeatedly made unforced errors.

Graf struggled with her forehand, one of the best shots in women's tennis, throughout the match, which enabled Sabatini to control the baseline rallies. Graf lost ten games on forehand errors and committed 21 forehand errors during the 122 minute match.



Zola Budd

Budd ordered to answer allegations

LONDON (R) — Zola Budd was summoned by British athletics chiefs Monday to answer allegations concerning her links with South Africa.

Tony Ward, the British Amateur Athletic Board spokesman, said a letter had been received from the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) "requesting answers to further questions regarding allegations of activity by Zola Budd in South Africa in 1987."

Ward said: "We will be seeking answers to these additional questions and we will be speaking to Zola very swiftly."

He said the latest accusations included claims of "giving and receiving prizes" at a race meeting in South Africa on New Year's Eve 1987.

But he added: "None of the questions from the IAAF concern her racing."

The allegations come amid mounting international pressure for Budd, 21, who was born and raised in South Africa, to be barred from the World Cross-Country Championships in New Zealand on March 26.

Budd, who received British citizenship in 1984 less than two weeks after arriving in England for the first time, has already denied accusations that she took part in a race in South Africa last year.

Inter: No deal on Madjer

MILAN (R) — Internazionale Milan on Monday denied a newspaper report they had signed Algerian soccer international Rabah Madjer from European Champions Porto.

Corriere dello Sport said Saturday that officials from both clubs had met Madjer in Spain, where he is on loan to Valencia, and that the 29-year-old striker had signed a two-year contract with Inter from next season.

"It's absolutely untrue, nothing has been signed and there is no contract," Inter spokesman Valterio Niliari told Reuters. "Porto have told us we can have him, but we'll have to see. He's just one of several players in Europe we're interested in."

Madjer, who played in the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico, has a preliminary contract to move to West German champions Bayern Munich, who in turn are likely to lose international Lothar Matthaus to Inter next season.

"We don't want to compromise things with Bayern over Matthaus for the sake of good relations," Niliari said.

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1988

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good day to clean the slate and make a fresh start, so maintain a pleasant and optimistic attitude.

This is also a good time to plan out a realistic schedule for achieving your goals in the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You can easily gain the necessary backing from a superior for a project you have in mind. Have more confidence in your abilities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You will be faced with a tough decision concerning a credit matter, so study the details carefully before you make up your mind.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You will have to make a spur-of-the-moment trip soon, so be ready for it. Delve into a new interest, and you can get some fine results.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A good business deal will be offered to you today, so don't let it slip through your fingers. Teamwork is your key word today.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You tend to stick to old-fashioned ideas and procedures, but you can greatly improve your productivity by seeking out some more modern methods.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get together with your co-workers and

brainstorm about how you can be more efficient. Some very fine results can come of this.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Your energy level, both mentally and physically, is very high right now, so be sure to use it wisely. Don't refuse to do a favor for a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) A talk with some family friends can open your eyes to a great opportunity. This evening will be a good time for socializing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may be in a rather gloomy mood today, so visit some cheerful friends who will revive your spirits. Pay attention to traffic laws.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find a way to improve the value of your property, then get right to work on it. Seek out and heed the advice of a financial expert.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take the time to indulge in fulfilling a personal wish this morning. Don't allow a stubborn friend to sidetrack your plans.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get started on a plan you have had in mind, so you can now make a go of it and get good results. Try to be more understanding of your mate.

The Daily Commuter Puzzle

ACROSS

- Ray of light
- Western home
- Ring out
- Logic or reason
- Rugged ridge
- Breathing sound
- Feb. type
- Jeweled headpiece
- Villa or
- Newspaper employee
- Winner
- Lubricates
- Persian
- Rebound
- Newly married
- Choo-choo
- Went astray
- Eagle's nest
- Small island
- Brittles
- Covers with
- David
- Hold back
- Butterfly
- Station
- Woodland
- Delicious
- Way (over)
- Depend
- Silas
- Bad marks
- Continued
- Nonsense
- Taj Mahal site
- Heavenly body
- Refuge
- Part of speech
- Sacred
- Small fish
- Journey

DOWN

- Tolerate
- Other
- Out of kilter
- Red color
- Snakes
- Zodiac sign
- Close
- Middle: abbr.
- True blues
- Goos before
- Direction
- Musical voice
- Villain's look
- Chin. staple
- Thought
- Award
- Brig
- Think
- Say
- Palm type
- Satin
- Apple drink
- Exams
- Fertilized
- line
- Religious school
- Legal right of passage
- Ceremony
- Old school
- Col. Olla and family
- Despot
- Flight back
- Meal for cattle
- About
- Iranian money
- Phunge
- Skorsky or
- Starinsky
- Genuine
- Went under
- Hit hard

Yesterday's Puzzle Solver:

PROD REDES RAMP
LOVE AMITY EOTE
OWIE SHALE CITE
PAIDIAN ELOI
BILLES OPEE
RELIGS GREATING
ALICE ONARD JOD
VERY POETS GARE
ERD AUBRE DANER
LITHESTER HANEST
PANDY DEADUDDA
IERR UNLAD BOLE
IERR VERVE OGRE
DEMO ENTER DORE

Passey romps to victory in 3,000-metre race

COSFORD, England (AP) — It was a rare sight for the 5,000 capacity crowd to see — double Olympic champion Sebastian Coe just entering the final bend as a comparative unknown crossed the finishing line.

Coe was a quarter of the track behind when teammate Adrian Passey romped to victory in the 3,000-metre race to give England a 1-2 triumph in the Kodak Classic International Match against the United States.

"I didn't have any zip or sparkle," Coe said. "But at least I finished it."

Last month, Coe dropped out of a 3,000-metre race at East Rutherford, New Jersey. That was his first race following a nine-month injury lay-off and Saturday's was his second.

"I have not been involved in serious running for 20 months," Coe said. "I'm not missing much in terms of training, but there's a world of difference between what you can do in training and what you can in races. It just shows how much you need to race."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

AND OMAR SHARIF

© 1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

DUST IN THEIR EYES

Both vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH

AK

A 4 2

A 9 4 2

10 6

WEST

7 5

8 4 2

9 7 3

10 6

J 8 7

K J 8 5 2

SOUTH

Q J 10 9 5 3

8 5

K 10 5

Q 7

The bidding:

West North East South

1 5 INT Pass 4 5

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of

Just because you, as declarer,

know that the opponents can take

enough tricks to defeat you is no

reason to throw in the towel. The

defenders might not be aware of

your situation, and you might be

able to find a play that will divert

them from the winning defense.

We have seen better one no trump

overall than North's. With only 15

points, all in primes, and a single

stopper in the enemy suit, he should

have passed and awaited develop-

ments. Assuming East also passed,

South could have reopened with one

spade, and the pair would eventu-

ally have come to rest in a safe

partnership.

West attacked four spades with

the top of his heart sequence. Sitting

South was Allan Kahn of New

York, and he did not like his pros-

pects. It seemed as if he would have

to lose two club tricks and one in

each red suit. He could perhaps set

up dummy's diamonds by ducking a

diamond early, but it would then be

obvious to the defenders that they

would have to cash out their winners

in the other suits.

Instead, he tried a little guile. He

ducked the opening lead and won

the continuation. After cashing the

table's top trumps, he calmly led a

club to his queen! East played low

and West took his ace.

Not surprisingly, West saw no fu-

ture in a club continuation. He led

another heart, ruffed by declarer,

who proceeded to red off his

trumps to produce this position:

A 9 6

10 6

9

Q 3

9 4

K J

K 10 5

7

When declarer led his last trump,

he could afford to part with a club

from dummy. East had no option

but to let go a club. Now East was

thrown in with a club and he had to

break the diamond suit for declarer.

By simply playing for split diamond

honors, declarer avoided losing a di-

amond trick and landed his

contract.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

© 1988 Cowles Syndicate, Inc.

HARRIS

I had the TV cable installed directly

into my brain. You'd be amazed

at the advantages!

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles,

one letter to each square, to form

four ordinary words.

NOAPI

ILETT

NEEWAK

TRONIA

Now arrange the circled letters to

form the surprise answer, as sug-

gested by the above cartoon.

Answer: "O O , O O O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: AGONY GAMUT MASCOE POLISH

Answer: The hypochondriac said he was so sick he

couldn't even do this—COMPLAIN

Morocco, Algeria held in Africa Nations Cup finals

CASABLANCA (R) — Hosts Morocco were held to a 1-1 draw by Zaïre after having Abderrazzak Khairy sent off and Algeria drew with Ivory Coast by the same score on the opening day of the Africa Nations Cup finals Sunday.

Morocco, the surprise team at the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico where they progressed to the second round, were reduced to 10 men in their clash with Zaïre and were unable to hang on to a 1-0 lead.

Veteran striker Merry Krimau put them ahead with a 41st minute penalty against Zaïre, but they were never convincing leaders and, when Abderrazzak Khairy — who scored twice for Morocco against Portugal in Mexico — was sent off for a foul on Mbote Nidinka on the hour they struggled to protect their lead.

Zaïre, playing in front of 80,000 Moroccans, fought back and levelled in the 89th minute when substitute Vita Luonadio fired in a powerful low shot.

In the second match, Ivory Coast came from behind to force a draw after gifted midfielder Lakhdar Belloumi had volleyed Algeria ahead after only 16 minutes.

Cheered on by their drum-beating and hand-clapping supporters, Ivory Coast stormed back to equalise after the interval when Abdoulaye Traore and Youssef Fofana combined in the Algerian goalmouth.

Fofana, the "Black Diamond" of French First Division leaders Monaco, slipped the ball to Traore who scored with a deflected shot off a defender.

After beating the offside trap, he put the ball the wrong side of the upright with only the keeper to beat.

Algerian defender Chabane Merzekane shadowed Fofana, but struggled to neutralise the 21-year-old Ivorian's silky skills.

Zaïre's deputy coach Nsingi Z Nkanza said he was happy with his team's first performance in Africa's Premier soccer event after a 13-year absence.

"We have won a battle and now we have to win the war," he said. "This was a high tension and difficult match for us. We have a good chance and we fear no-one."

Defending champions Egypt meet Cameroun and Nigeria face Kenya in Rabat Monday evening.

The clubs have not yet met in the First Division this season. But they are now booked for three confrontations in the space of 11 days next month.

Liverpool, currently 14 points clear at the top, face Forest away on April 2. After the semifinal a week later Forest meet Liverpool again in the League at Anfield April 13.

The Cup clash will be played on Sheffield Wednesday's ground while Wimbledon meet Luton at White Hart Lane, the home of Tottenham.

Wimbledon, in the semifinals for the first time in their 99-year history, face a Luton side which has already booked a place in three Wembley finals this year.

Liverpool, currently 14 points clear at the top, face Forest away on April 2. After the semifinal a week later Forest meet Liverpool again in the League at Anfield April 13.

NHL STANDINGS

NEW YORK (R) — Standings of National Hockey League (NHL) teams after Sunday's games:

Wales Conference						
Patrick Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia Flyers	35	27	7	77	259	253
Washington Capitals	36	28	6	78	246	205
New York Islanders	33	29	9	75	267	243
New York Rangers	30	31	8	68	260	246
New Jersey Devils	31	35	5	67	251	277
Pittsburgh Penguins	29	32	9	67	274	285

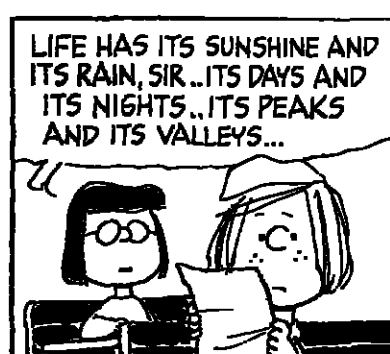
Adams Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
X-Montreal Canadiens	40	20	10	90	262	212
Boston Bruins	39	26	5	83	266	224
Buffalo Sabres	33	28	9	75	251	265
Hartford Whalers	29	34	7	65	210	237
Quebec Nordiques	30	36	4	64	245	263

Campbell Conference						
Norris Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
X-Detroit Red Wings	38	24	9	85	289	235
X-St. Louis Blues	31	33	6	68	243	248
Chicago Black Hawks	29	34	7	65	247	278
Toronto Maple Leafs	20	41	10	50	248	302
Minnesota North Stars	18	42	9	45	232	298

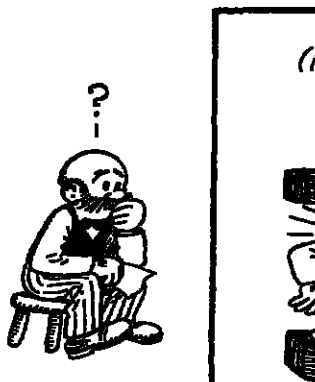
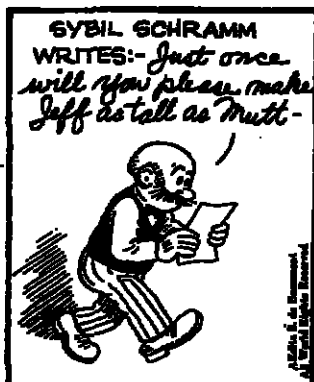
Smythe Division						
	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
X-Calgary Flames	41	21	8	90	340	267
X-Edmonton Oilers	38	23	9	85	315	249
X-Winnipeg Jets	31	30	10	72	270	270
Los Angeles Kings	26	40	5	58	274	321
Vancouver Canucks	21	44	8	50	247	299

X-Clinches Playoff Berth

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Gorbachev in Yugoslavia to reaffirm friendly ties

BELGRADE (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev arrived in Belgrade Monday to reaffirm friendly ties with non-aligned Yugoslavia 40 years after an acrimonious ideological dispute drove a wedge between the two Communist states.

Gorbachev emerged smiling from his Jivushin-62 airliner with his wife Raisa and a delegation of senior officials. The 57-year-old Soviet leader, who entered his fourth year in power last week, looked relaxed and confident as he strode onto the tarmac.

Gorbachev was met at the airport by Yugoslav President Lazar Mojsov and party leader Bosko Krunic, the current heads of Yugoslavia's rotating collective leadership.

"Welcome to Yugoslav soil," said Yugoslav Ambassador to the Soviet Union Milan Veres as Gorbachev shook hands with his hosts under grey skies. A 21-gun salute was followed by the Soviet and Yugoslav national anthems.

Gorbachev, who left the airport for the Beli Dvor state guest house, was to begin talks with Mojsov and Krunic after laying wreaths at two military monuments. One was a memorial to almost 3,000 soldiers, among them 976 Soviet troops, who died in the 1944 liberation of Belgrade.

Highlights of his stay in Belgrade will include the signing of a new political declaration setting out the principles of full equality and non-interference in party and state relations and an address to the Yugoslav parliament.

The declaration holds symbolic meaning for the Yugoslavs, who

were expelled from the Communist movement by Josef Stalin in 1948 for ideological heresy, helped found the Non-Aligned Movement and developed a distinctive brand of Communism.

Yugoslav officials say it will be based on documents signed in the 1950s in which the Soviet party recognised the Communist world's diversity, but will also take account of Yugoslavia's non-aligned status and the Soviet role as a superpower.

Gorbachev has sought to mend fences with other independent-minded Communist parties, and there has been speculation he could announce a new foreign policy initiative concerning left-wing movements in his address to parliament Wednesday.

Gorbachev's colourful five-day tour will include stops in the northern republic of Slovenia, which has been compared to the Soviet Union's economically advanced Baltic states, and the booming Adriatic resort of Dubrovnik in the south.

His tight agenda also includes trips to factories and farms which Soviet sources say he will use to learn more about Yugoslavia's economic self-management system and its possible adaptation to his Soviet "Perestroika" economic reform drive.

Ethnic issues

Arriving at a time when Mos-

cow is facing serious ethnic unrest in Armenia and Azerbaijan, he is likely to discuss Yugoslav handling of nationality issues in this multi-ethnic country of 23 million people.

In at least one city walkabout, Gorbachev will give a taste of his more relaxed, outgoing leadership style to a Yugoslav public which has welcomed the current Soviet liberalisation.

"No Soviet leader since, perhaps, Nikita Khrushchev, has excited so much curiosity among the global public," Belgrade's wide-circulation *Vecernje Novosti* newspaper said.

Economic pitfalls
Soviet sources say Gorbachev will also seek to learn more about the economic pitfalls of the Yugoslav system which have led to triple-digit inflation and \$21-billion foreign debt.

The chief barrier to smooth ties between the two countries — Moscow's \$1.4 billion trade deficit, which Belgrade views as a contributor to inflation — was eased Sunday in an accord between a Soviet advance team and Yugoslav officials.

Yugoslav government sources said Moscow had agreed to clear two-thirds of the deficit over the next three years through increased exports and convert the rest to a credit to Belgrade.

The agreement, however, apparently left unresolved the issue of export structure at a time when Moscow has pressed Belgrade to accept more manufactured goods while the Yugoslavs, who make their own high quality products, would prefer more Soviet oil.

Witness tells of cover-up in Aquino trial

MANILA (AP) — A retired police investigator testified Monday that soldiers present at the assassination of President Corason Aquino's husband were told to sign statements that had been altered by a senior officer.

Retired Lieutenant Pedro Aquino made the statements during testimony in the retrial of 40 people charged in the Aug. 21, 1983, assassination of former Senator Benigno Aquino Jr.

The opposition leader was gunned down as he left a China Air Lines flight under military escort moments after arriving from three years of self-imposed exile in the United States.

That triggered a wave of protests that culminated in the February 1986 revolt that toppled President Ferdinand Marcos and propelled the senator's widow, Corason Aquino, into the presidency.

Pedro Aquino, who is not related to the victim, said the soldiers made written statements to investigators after the assassination.

But the witness said statements were altered and returned to the soldiers by Lieutenant Colonel Berlin Castillo with instructions to sign them without changing the date of the original deposition.

During the testimony, Pedro Aquino also said that a week after the slaying, he overheard one of the defendants, Brigadier General Luther Custodio, tell chief of staff General Fabian Ver "Why don't I just admit it to get it over with."

Bush looks strong in Illinois; Democrats to fight it out

CHICAGO (AP) — The race for a rich trove of Democratic delegates from Illinois is a three-way battle between Michael Dukakis and two local favourites, according to the latest polls, while the Republican contest is looking like another George Bush runaway.

One poll out Monday said Jesse Jackson was pulling ahead of Paul Simon in the battle of local favourites, while another showed Simon maintaining his advantage. Both showed Dukakis in third place, trying to cut into the home state support of his two Democratic rivals and claim some of the state's 187 Democratic delegates.

Bush, meanwhile, was a favourite to add the state to his list of Republican presidential primary victories.

A poll published Monday in the *Chicago Tribune* said 32 per cent of likely Democratic voters supported Jackson, 29 per cent backed Simon and 20 per cent said they would vote for Dukakis. Congressman Richard Gephardt of Missouri was the choice of 5 per cent and Senator Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee had the backing

of 4 per cent. Another poll, published Monday by the Washington Post newspaper and the ABC Broadcasting Network, gave Simon the lead with 42 per cent support to Jackson's 33 per cent. Dukakis had 14 per cent, Gore 4 per cent and Gephardt 3 per cent.

Barring a major upset, Bush was expected to pick up the lion's share of the 92 Republican delegates at stake Tuesday, and deliver another blow to Senate Minority leader Bob Dole's fading candidacy. The Tribune poll showed Bush the choice of 62 per cent of Republican voters, compared to just 28 per cent for Dole.

As it became more apparent that the vice president was locking up his party's presidential nomination, he became the target of more criticism from Republican and Democratic rivals.

"I'd like George Bush to tell us whether (Panamanian General Manuel) Noriega was on his payroll when he was CIA director," said Dole.

In a speech at Northwestern University Law School, Gore fo-

cused on the Iran-contra affair and said, "we still don't know what George Bush's role was."

Dole vows to stay in race

Meanwhile, Dole pledged he will keep fighting for the Republican presidential nomination whatever happens at Tuesday's Illinois primary.

Although polls show him trailing by more than two to one, Dole vows he will stay in the race, even if he loses in Illinois.

Despite the heavy odds, Dole said he has been urged by leading Republicans to stay in the race, including a letter from former President Richard Nixon.

"I believe I have some obligation — not to look ridiculous — but some obligation to stay in this race and let the American people sort of step back and take a look, and then I believe they'll make the judgment that Bob Dole is the strongest candidate," Dole told U.S. television.

"We still believe the people of Illinois are going to support that effort. We may not win, but we're going to do very well here."

Tutu urges west to cut ties with S. Africa

NEW YORK (R) — Archbishop Desmond Tutu said Monday that the United States, Britain and West Germany should threaten to cut diplomatic ties with South Africa to protest its apartheid policies or face the violent prospect of another Lebanon.

The black Anglican church leader wrote in the *New York Times* that cutting diplomatic ties with Pretoria would not cost jobs or lives but would have "profound psychological consequences" on the white-controlled government.

"I want to issue a challenge to the American, British and West German governments. You say you are against apartheid. If you are, then make three demands of the South African government," wrote Tutu, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner who is head of the Anglican church in southern Africa.

The demands were that South Africa lift its state of emergency, rescind restrictions imposed on anti-apartheid organisations and leaders and either prosecute in open court or release anti-apartheid detainees, particularly children.

"If the government does not meet these demands, you must cut diplomatic ties. That would not be a radical step to take in the circumstances. It's not going to cost jobs or lives. It would be a gesture, but a dramatic one with profound psychological consequences for those who wield power in South Africa," Tutu wrote.

"Or do you want another Lebanon?" The church leader repeated his belief in non-violence but said he was "filled with despair" that the United States and Britain could veto sanctions in the U.N. Security Council, decisions he called "all the more staggering in the light of the South African representative's arrogant challenge to the Security Council to 'do your damndest'."

Gunman in Pakistani hijack attempt Afghan agent

KARACHI (AP) — Eight airport security officials have been suspended pending investigation into their failure to detect a weapon used by a gunman who tried to hijack an airliner on a domestic flight, security sources and newspapers reported Sunday.

Meanwhile, a news report said the gunman, identified as 28-year-old Mannan Achakzai, was an Afghan agent. APP, Pakistan's national news agency, said without elaborating that Achakzai worked for Khad, the Afghan intelligence service.

Airport officials, requesting anonymity, also said Sunday that five passengers suspected of involvement in the attempted hijacking had been detained. The officials said the five included an Afghan, a Saudi Arabian and a Palestinian.

Achakzai was overpowered by a security guard minutes before the plane landed Saturday at Quetta, in Baluchistan province, near the Afghan border.

U.S. crime levels stay stable in 1987

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. crime levels in 1987 remained stable for the third straight year, according to preliminary government figures issued Sunday, a possible indication that declines in crime earlier in the decade are about to be reversed.

About 34.4 million crimes were committed in the United States last year, an increase of 0.9 per cent from 34.1 million in 1986, concludes the Justice Department's national crime survey based on household interviews.

"Total crime has remained stable during the last three years" and remains at a 14-year low, according to Stephen Schlesinger, director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, who said that the 0.9 per cent rise was not statistically significant.

There were 5.5 million violent

crimes in 1987, up 0.4 per cent from the previous year. Theft totalled 13.45 million last year, up 1.7 per cent from 1986. Household crimes of burglary, larceny and auto theft totalled 15.4 million, up 0.4 per cent from the previous year. Only thefts of motor vehicles other than cars, such as trucks and motorcycles, grew significantly, by 15 per cent to an estimated 1.6 million.

Since 1980, violent crimes have fallen from 33 per 1,000 U.S. residents to 28; thefts from 83 to 68 per 1,000; and household crimes from 227 to 168.

The stability of the past three years is a surprise to some criminologists, who had been predicting continued declines for a few more years, based on the fact that the most crime-prone age group continues to shrink in size.

Nepal disaster probe focuses on locked gates

KATHMANDU (R) — A probe into the Nepali stadium stampede sought Monday to establish who was responsible for locking the gates, which led to 70 soccer fans being trampled to death as they fled a violent hailstorm.

Saturday's disaster was the worst in the modern history of this landlocked Himalayan Mountain kingdom.

"It was terrible. People were screaming and shouting, terrified," said Hans Jakob-Hegge, 19-year-old Norwegian studying in Nepal who was at the match. All the gates were locked except one, which was half open.

It was all over within two minutes, he said. "There were bodies everywhere. I saw about 60, but there were more. Police used batons to club down the fences to get at the victims."

As smoke from funeral pyres drifted across the city from cremation sites on the banks of

the Bagmati River, officials on an inquiry headed by Judge Bhairav Prasad Lamsal interviewed witnesses.

The disaster happened when spectators estimated to number up to 25,000 fled for shelter from a sudden hailstorm and were crushed against the stadium's locked gates.

Government officials said the aim of the inquiry was to establish who was responsible for locking the gates and who held the keys at the time of the stampede.

Some witnesses have said the police on duty refused to open the gates without orders from their superiors.

A police spokesman rejected the witnesses' allegations, saying the keys were held by stadium officials. Police officers at the scene had desperately tried to wrench open the gates as the crowd surged forward, he said.

Thailand agrees to more talks on border dispute

BANGKOK (AP) — A government team will travel to Laos this week for a second round of talks on resolving a frontier dispute, Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila said Monday.

Kasemsamorn, secretary of the Thai Foreign Ministry, will lead the team to the talks beginning Thursday in Laos' capital of Vientiane, Siddhi told reporters.

The invitation for the talks came last week from Brigadier General Thonglai Kommasit, who held the first round with Kasemsamorn in Bangkok on March 3-4. Thonglai is deputy chief of the Laotian army's gener-

al political department. "We hope the negotiations will be sincere and that Laos will realise its interests are better served by cooperating and not by dragging this out any further," Siddhi said.

Thai army officers recently said 402 Laotian soldiers and 147 Thai soldiers were killed in 3½ months of fighting for some hills between Thailand's northern Phitsanulok province and Laos' Sayaboury province.

Talks on determining the location of the border began after the two sides started a cease-fire on Feb. 19.

Soviet advisers reported killed by Khmer Rouge

BANGKOK (AP) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas recently killed four Soviet advisers in a road ambush in Cambodia, according to a guerrilla radio broadcast.

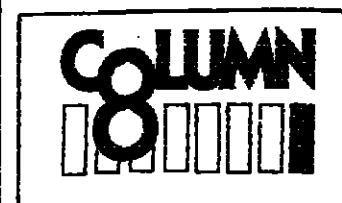
The clandestine radio of the Communist Khmer Rouge said the Soviets, and two Vietnamese officials based in Cambodia's capital of Phnom Penh, were killed when guerrillas ambushed their jeep and set it ablaze on March 7.

A text of the guerrilla broadcast last Saturday was obtained

from a Western embassy in Bangkok Monday. The claim could not be confirmed.

The jeep was travelling on a route from the major southern seaport of Kompong Som to Phnom Penh, the broadcast said.

The Khmer Rouge, who killed hundreds of thousands of people during its 1975-78 rule in Cambodia, is the strongest of three guerrilla groups battling Soviet-armed Vietnamese forces that invaded the country in late 1978.



Woman conductor cracks male realm

LONDON (R) — A British music critic once wrote that women were better at conducting buses than orchestras — but that was 40 years before Sian Edwards signed to wield the baton at London's Royal Opera House. When Edwards, 28, conducts at the opera house next month, she will become the first woman to do so in 250 years of performances at Covent Garden, and one of the youngest conductors in its history. Asked about the distant critic's dismissive remarks on the abilities of women conductors, she laughed loudly and said in an interview with Reuters: "Women can run a symphony orchestra. I'm sure they can do it as well as women bus conductors do their job." The invitation to conduct at Covent Garden should be proof enough, she said. And the message is not only directed at men.

No wedding for Prince Edward

LIVERPOOL (AP) — Prince Edward, youngest son of Queen Elizabeth II, Sunday night denied a British newspaper report that he plans to marry the 22-year-old daughter of a Belgian baroness. The *People*, a weekly London tabloid, had reported earlier Sunday that the 24-year-old prince had proposed to Georgia May, whose mother, Catherine, was born a baroness in the Belgian family Van Den Branden de Reeth. But when reporters shouted "Congratulations!" and "How is Georgia?" as he arrived at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts Craft Awards ceremony in his spare time, he snapped: "I don't know what you're talking about. It's all complete fabrication."

Reagan's adopted son 'outsider'

NEW YORK (R) — President Reagan's adopted son describes in his autobiography an anguished life in which he felt like a family outsider, hiding a childhood secret of being sexually molested by a camp counsellor. People magazine reported Sunday, "I didn't feel I belonged in so perfect a family." Michael Reagan, 43, told the magazine. "I've spent my life trying to figure out how to make Ronald Reagan my friend." In the autobiography, "On the Outside Looking In," Reagan tells of finally overcoming his guilt about being molested through therapy, of tracing his natural family and of improving his relationship with his adoptive father and stepmother, first lady Nancy Reagan. Michael Reagan was adopted by Ronald Reagan and actress Jane Wyman, the president's first wife, in 1944. He was an illegitimate child and his biological mother put him up for adoption when he was four days old. He is now the host of a television game show in Canada. When she heard he was writing a book, Nancy Reagan called Michael Reagan to say: "I just hope you can say some nice, positive things about your father." Reagan told her: "There have always been nice things in the book about my father. I'm just glad I've finally been able to say some nice things about you."

Cross-cultural exchange

LONDON (R) — Groups of Britons and Russians discussed politics, poetry and lifestyles Sunday in a live television programme linking Moscow and London by satellite. "Do you have to queue for goods?" the British asked, saying they were surprised at how well dressed the Soviet group was. "Yes we queue," Moscow replied. "But we can get anything." The participants in the one-hour programme, the first in a series to be shown on a British commercial network, were in studios in Moscow and London and included celebrities and members of the public. The Russians wanted to know if all Britons supported Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, how they found jobs and what farmers did in their spare time. The British focused on politics and wanted to know whether Armenian unrest worried ordinary people and whether they would affect Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform drive. The Russians seemed bemused by the volley of political questions and were puzzled by the antics and fast pace of Western commercial television. Moscow saw the British programme during breaks in the programme and the British audience, which could not see the Russians instead, said afterwards they saw jaws drop in the Soviet audience.

Crocker, Botha begin southern Africa talks

GENEVA (AP) — South African Foreign Minister Roelof "Pik" Botha met Monday with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker for what the U.S. State Department called an effort to advance a peace plan for southern Africa.

Botha's press secretary, Mari Botha, told the Associated Press that the two officials were meeting at the South African diplomatic mission in Geneva. It was their first meeting in two years.

She said the talks were open-ended and that no details would be released before the talks finished.

State Department spokeswoman Anita Stockman said Saturday in Washington that the Crocker-Botha meeting would provide an opportunity "to reassess South Africa's willingness to proceed toward a settlement involving total Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola and Namibian independence based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 435."

She said a State Department working group arrived in Angola, Wednesday to explore the possibility of further talks on securing withdrawal of an estimated 40,000 Cuban troops from the country as part of an overall settlement.

On Sunday, Angola's Foreign Ministry said Angola and Cuba had presented proposals to the American officials for a southern Africa peace accord, including a timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from southern Angola and an eventual full pullout.

Since he took office in 1981, Crocker has tried to negotiate a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola in return for South African withdrawal from neighbouring South-West Africa, also known as Namibia.

The Cuban troops have been battling a powerful guerrilla force, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA. The guerrillas are backed by South Africa and the United States.

In January, Cuba declared its willingness in principle to pull its troops out of Angola, in what appeared to be a major breakthrough. But the overall settlement that would bring about the withdrawal is yet to be decided.

On Sunday, UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi said that South Africa has told him it will begin direct talks with the Angolan government in a bid to end Angola's 13-year-old civil war. He gave no indication when such talks would begin.

Kim Dae-Jung hints he may step down

SEOUL (AP) — Opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung indicated Monday he might step down to stop bitter feuding within the divided opposition before legislative elections next month.

Kim Dae-Jung asked rival opposition leader Kim Young-Sam if he was stepping down as leader of the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) would clear the way for the opposition to field joint candidates in the elections.

But Kim Young-Sam, leader of the rival Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), immediately rejected Kim Dae-Jung's proposal as a trick and claimed his opponent was trying to evade blame for splitting the opposition.

"It's nothing but another trick to deceive the people," Kim Young-Sam said after receiving Kim Dae-Jung's proposal from an emissary.

Efforts to reunite the two main opposition parties before the National Assembly elections collapsed last week after Kim Dae-Jung rejected an RDP demand that he resign as leader of the PPD.

Kim Young-Sam, who resigned as RDP leader in February to help clear the way to reunite the two parties, said Monday there was no chance of resuming talks on reunification.

"It is now too late," he said. Kim Young-Sam also rejected Kim Dae-Jung's proposal that the

two parties field joint candidates in at least the Seoul area to prevent a massive government victory in the elections.

Kim Dae-Jung made the sudden offer after meeting late Sunday night with PPD officials who warned him that both parties faced defeat in the elections because of the split, party sources said.

PPD officials warned Kim Dae-Jung that support for the party was collapsing in many areas because people were blaming him for blocking the reunification with the RDP by refusing to resign, the sources said.

Some political observers said they doubted Kim Dae-Jung was prepared to resign despite his offer.

They suggested the veteran opposition leader was attempting to deflect blame for the failure of the reunification talks by attempting to appear reasonable now that chances for reunification had passed.

RDP officials, who declined to be named, charged that Kim Dae-Jung was attempting to win back supporters unhappy with the divisions within the opposition.

The RDP and the PPD formed separate committees Monday to start screening and selecting candidates for the elections, expected to be held at the end of April.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Mozambique cyclone death toll rises

MAPUTO, Mozambique (AP) — The death toll from a cyclone earlier this month in central Mozambique has risen to 100, the national news agency AIM reported Monday. Cyclone Filao struck March 1 and damaged large parts of the port city of Quelimane and surrounding rural areas in Zambezia province. The news agency, AIM, last week reported the cyclone had killed 57 people. It said Monday that the toll had risen as more information was received from remote areas. The cyclone destroyed 1,000 homes, leaving an estimated 4,500 people homeless, AIM said.

Sikh militants kill 15 in Punjab

NEW DELHI (AP) — Sikh extremists killed 15 people, including a family of four, in troubled Punjab state, the United News of India (UNI) reported Monday. The deaths late Sunday and early Monday raised to at least 445 the number of killings blamed on Sikh militants in the state since the start of the year. The latest wave of violence comes as the government of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has been making overtures to Sikh priests and other leaders to encourage them to bring the extremists in line. UNI said Sardul Singh, his wife and two daughters were fatally shot early Monday in the village of Jhander in Amritsar district. The gunmen burned down the house before fleeing, the news agency said. Responsibility for the attack on the Sikh family was claimed by the Bhindranwale Tiger Force, one of more than a dozen underground radical groups operating in the state. Eight other people were killed in Amritsar district, including four Hindus killed in the village of Dallin, UNI said. A retired Sikh police constable, identified as Gajjan Singh, was shot and killed in Ludhiana district, and two Hindus were pulled out of a truck and gunned down in Jalandhar district, the news agency said.

2,250 desertions reported in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (R) — An independent newspaper reported Monday that nearly 2,250 security men, mostly soldiers, have deserted their posts since last year and joined an extremist Sinhalese organisation. The island newspaper quoted unidentified senior security officers as saying that the deserters have become members of the hit squads of the ultra-nationalist People's

Liberation Front. The Front has claimed more than 150 lives, mostly of government supporters and politicians, since an India-Sri Lanka peace accord was signed last July to grant more autonomy to minority Tamils. The Front opposes the accord and has vowed to kill those who support it. A spokesman of the government's military Joint Operations Command, commenting on the report, said there had been some desertions from the armed forces "like anywhere else in the world." He said it would not be possible to give an exact figure.

32 lost in India storm

NEW DELHI (AP) — At least 32 people drowned in a storm last week when their boat capsized in the central state of Madhya Pradesh, according to delayed reports reaching New Delhi Monday. The United News of India (UNI) said the victims were among 42 people travelling on a boat that overturned late Friday on the Some River. The news agency said 10 people swam to safety. On the same day, scores of fishing boats capsized from heavy winds in Manginaj district in central Bangladesh, and 15 people were feared drowned. More than 50 boats overturned or sank in Manginaj district northwest of Dhaka, reports said.

Carter: Democrats have 'excellent chance'

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter promised support Sunday for a drive to eradicate guinea worm, a debilitating parasite that permanently disables 12,000 Nigerians annually, by 1995. Carter also said Sunday at a news conference that Democrats have an "excellent chance" to win November's U.S. presidential election because of Ronald Reagan's unpopular policies in Central America and South Africa. Carter said "two-thirds of the American people disapprove of aid to the contras," referring to U.S.-backed rebels fighting Nicaragua's government. American voters wanted to see the United States adopt tougher economic sanctions against South Africa, and supported the holding of an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict, Carter added. Carter, who arrived Sunday on an overnight visit to this West African nation, pledged the support of Global 2000, a private, non-profit institution founded during his 1977-81 presidency. The Atlanta-based organisation funds health and agriculture projects in the developing world.